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CHRONICLES OF A NONCONFORMIST FAMILY

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THE KENRICKS OF WYNNE HALL

EXETER AND BIRMINGHAM

EDITED BY

MRS. W. BYNG KENRICK

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CONTENTS

Chapter	I.	The Kenricks of Gwersyllt ..	*Page* 1
„	II.	The Wynne Family	9
„	III.	John Kenrick, his Wife and Children ..	19
„	IV.	More about the Family	31
„	V.	Timothy and Archibald	45
„	VI.	The Emigrants	71
„	VII.	Timothy of Exeter's last letters ..	119
„	VIII.	Letters from West Bromwich and York	129
„	IX.	The Younger Generation	177
„	X.	Family News	205
Appendix A		.. ..	241
„	B	.. ..	242
„	C	.. ..	244
Index to Letters and Extracts		.. ..	247
Genealogical Table			

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INTRODUCTION

This history has been compiled for the descendants of Archibald Kenrick of West Bromwich. Miss C. A. Hutton began by collecting letters and records, and in this she was much aided by the late Miss L. Sharpe and her sisters (granddaughters of Mrs. T. W. Reid) who kindly placed at her disposal the correspondence of the Revd. Timothy Kenrick. Many of his letters have been published in the *Transactions of the Unitarian Historical Society* but those refer to his ministry at Exeter, and only a few of them are printed here. Miss Hutton and I made a selection from the letters of Ralph Eddowes, and from some of the other letters. Except for the one letter from America, we had no letters from John Kenrick (the third) and none from members of his family, so we confined ourselves to the letters of the group that was in close touch with Birmingham. The original spelling and punctuation have been retained where possible and notes have been made where a break has been caused by the seal of the letter.

Miss Hutton died before her work could be completed, and to her memory I dedicate this book.

NORAH KENRICK

The Grove,
Harborne,
Birmingham.
December 1931.

CHAPTER I

THE KENRICKS OF GWERSYLLT

THE KENRICKS OF GWERSYLLT

THE name Kenrick, with various spellings is of frequent occurrence in pedigrees, title deeds and records belonging to North Wales from the fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries, but as it is sometimes a Christian name and sometimes a surname it is difficult to trace relationships. In the district round Wrexham there were many Kenricks, but they cannot be connected with the first known ancestor of the Wynne Hall family, Edward Kenrick of Gwersyllt. In the preparation of this book no researches have been made into wills or Subsidy Rolls. This was done by Samuel Kenrick of Birmingham in 1833, and the results he obtained are embodied here. Later it was continued by Mr. W. F. Carter and the results can be read in his *Notes on Kenrick Families*. To his work and *The Older Nonconformity of Wrexham*, by Mr. A. N. Palmer, we are indebted for the following details about Edward Kenrick and his descendants. CHAP. I

In the Denbighshire Roll which is an (undated) hearth-tax of the time of Charles II, in Gwersyllt "Edward John Kynrhicke" paid on two hearths. Mr. Palmer states that in a 1670 hearth-tax, Edward "Kenericke" paid on two hearths in Gwersyllt, while in a 1671 hearth-tax Edward Kenricke paid there on "two hearths in Walk Mill". He possessed also, two houses in Hope Street, Wrexham, one of which was afterwards called "The Talbot". In the barn belonging to this house, from the accession of William III until 1762, the Independent congregation met regularly for worship, and probably these were the premises licensed for meetings of the Independents in 1672.

Edward Kenrick is sometimes called Edward John Kenrick (*i.e.* John Kenrick's Edward) from which we conclude that his father's name was John. It has been suggested that his father was John Wynne Kenrick of the Marchwiel family, living in Hope Street, Wrexham, in 1617 (see Appendix C). But according to Mr. Carter the dates are against the probability and apparently John Wynne Kenrick had no children.

Edward Kenrick made his will on July 20th, 1674. He mentions his wife, his son John Kenrick and his grandchild Ann, daughter of John; daughter Elizabeth Robinson and grandchild Thomas Robinson; son Daniel, daughter Martha and son Samuel, and he made his mark E by way of signature. He was married twice; the family pedigree says his first wife's name was Fuller, though we do not know the authority for this. A Roger Fuller occupied a fulling mill in Burton, near Gwersyllt, so it is not improbable that his wife was a member of that family. She was the mother of his children, as his wife Jane, in her will made December 11th, 1691, says after legacies to her nephew and niece, "I give and bequeath unto Deborah Kenrick daughter to my Stepson Samuel Kenrick my bed and all that belongs and appertains thereto, except only the sheets aforementioned" . . . and after some bequests to different people for gloves, she leaves the remainder of her goods to "my well-beloved Stepson Samuel Kenrick of Bersham in the County of Denbigh, aforesaid, Walker", who is appointed sole executor. This will was proved on July 1st, 1693.

John Kenrick, son of Edward, left no descendants who can be traced, Martha died unmarried, and of Daniel we know nothing. Samuel Kenrick, said to be of the Pandy, near Bersham, succeeded to the ownership of the house in Hope Street, used as a Dissenters' meeting house, for it must have been "the buildings of Mr. Samuel Kenrick" which were licensed on October 9th, 1689, for the worship by Independents. Mr. Carter gives the following abstract of Samuel Kenrick's will dated April 17th, 1712. The testator refers to an instrument executed by him under the description of "Samuel Kenrick of Esclusham", Rebecca his then wife and Edward his son of the first part, and Thomas Robinson of Wrexham, joiner, of the other part, in which Samuel, Rebecca and Edward conveyed to Thomas Robinson in trust the messuages and tenements in Hope Street, Wrexham, then in the holding of Thomas Robinson and John

Hughes and that barn adjoining thereto now a meeting house, and also those parcels of land in the parishes of Wrexham, Holt and Marchwiel. He mentions his son John Kenrick, his wife Rebecca now deceased, his second son Samuel and grandson Samuel, son of Samuel; his son Joseph, his son Daniel, his daughter Deborah wife of Daniel Edwards and her four children, and his daughter Mary wife of John Jones and her three children. His son John to be executor.

The "Funerall Expences" of Samuel Kenrick, in the handwriting of his son John, are as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Paid Mr. Powell for Biscake.	01	15	00
Paid sister for Beef and Sowte [suet]			
Pd Sam Price the Grave Cutter	00	2	00
To Mary Rogers for cakes allowing '6/- wch she owed my father		09	00
To Thomas Jones of ye Raven for Ebulon (?)*		8	00
To Alex Robinson for Beer	1	00	00
To Hugh Jones for Ale		11	00
To Coz. Robinson for coffin, crape, etc.	2	10	00
To Benj. Parry for Gloves	2	11	06
To Coz. R. Benjamin for Tobacco and Sugar		07	09
Pd to Mr. Jno. Broadfoot for hat bands		11	00
Item to Jeffrey Thomas for Heriott		07	06
Item to John Clubb for a Graveston		19	00
Dec. 21. Mr. Moulding for Probate of my fa. will	1	12	00
In all	10	03	09

Will proved at St. Asaph, Dec. 20., 1716.

Sum should be	13	3	9

Of the children of Samuel Kenrick only Edward and John concern us or have left known descendants.

*EBULUM (*Lat. ebulum*, the dwarf elder-tree). A name for elderberry wine. (O.E.D.)

Edward was born, probably, about 1673, and he married a daughter of the celebrated preacher, Dr. Hugh Owen of Bron-y-clydwr, near Llanegryn, in Merioneth. Hugh Owen died in 1699, and his son John Owen in 1700, and after that date Edward Kenrick lived at Bron-y-clydwr which had been inherited by his wife, and he visited and had the pastoral oversight of the congregations formed by his father-in-law at Dolgelly and Bala. Edward had certainly two children, a son and a daughter. The son John was born in 1711 and in later life resided in Wrexham; in the pedigree he is described as the Revd. John Kenrick of The Green, Wrexham, and his age is given as 80 years at the time of his death. He is believed to have studied at Glasgow University, also we know that he married when very young. On a sheet of paper is written:

"My dear wife, the desire and delight of my eyes departed this life Wednesday Oct. 20th. 1731, and was buried in her father's grave in Llanegryn."

"My dear Father departed this life the third day of May 1741 and was buried the following Wednesday in the grave of my grandmother M. Owen."

"Thursday 8th Sept. 1748 I was married at Pennal Church by Mr. Lewis Thomas, the persons that attended us and were present were the Revd Ellis Hughes and his sister Anne Hughes of Dolygelynen. John Kenrick."

"Tuesday 20th June 1749 my wife was brought to bed of a son who was called Edward." And then follow the dates of birth of his children Ann, John, Hugh and Evan, the latter dying before he was a year old.

"4th Jan. 1763 my dear wife died, her dear remains were deposited in the burying ground belonging to the family of Bron-y-clydwr in Llanegryn Churchyard."

After this come the names and dates of birth of his sister's children and the date of her death 1762, but he does not give her

name. Of John Kenrick's children Edward died in Jamaica in 1781, John married Anne Evans of Llanfyllin and had eight children, and Hugh married Sarah Willington and died in 1833: He had three sons and five daughters; the one son who lived to grow up married Mary Milne of Usk, by whom he had three daughters who all married and their descendants are living now. This is all we know of the descendants of Edward Kenrick son of Samuel.

To return to the third son of Samuel. John Kenrick succeeded to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Congregation in Wrexham. He was ordained with three other candidates at Nantwich on October 21st, 1707, and it seems to have been a great occasion with twenty ministers present, including the Revd. Matthew Henry and Dr. Holland. But the years from 1714 onwards were difficult ones for the Dissenting Congregations. The Tories were incensed at the accession of George I, and before and after the 1715 rising there were frequent riots in Wrexham, and the Meeting House suffered severely. Mr. Palmer gives a series of extracts from John Kenrick's notes such as this, under the date July 17th, 1715: "Being Lord's Day the children and young people did a great deal of harm to the New Meeting House. Being Lord's Day, Mr. Williams and I preached at Mr. Hugh Roberts' House to a numerous and mournful assembly. From that day till the Old Meeting House was repaired Mr. Williams continued to preach the Word and Administer the Sacrament at Mr. Roberts' as I at Mrs. Nicholls' ". On July 27th, 1717, he notes "Received from the Government, per Mr. William Travers, the ten pounds which I lent towards the expense of rebuilding our Meeting House".

On February 14th, 1722, John Kenrick married Sarah, widow of John Taylor and daughter of Archibald Hamilton and Sarah Wynne.

CHAPTER II

THE WYNNE FAMILY

THE pedigree of the Wynne family goes far back into the misty past of North Wales. CHAP. II

In 1833 Samuel Kenrick of Birmingham obtained from Mr. T. T. Griffith of Wrexham the translation of a portion of a manuscript book containing the Pedigrees of the Gentry of North Wales, compiled in 1710 by an ancestor of Mr. Griffith. The translation refers to the Wynnes of Y Fanechtyd or Efenechted or Monachdy near Ruthin, and begins with Llewellyn of the Golden Torques of Ystrad-Alyn, who married Eve daughter of Blethyn son of Cynfyn, Prince of North Wales of the third Royal Tribe. Blethyn began to reign in 1064. The next in succession is Ithel the Yellow, followed by Hofa and Hofa's great-grandson Kenric, and others to Llewellyn the Little and his descendants Tudor, Simon and Robert, and the latter's son John Wynne. John's son Hugh Wynne married Alice Coedmore about 1610 and they had three children: (1) John who married Martha daughter of Simon Parry of Pont-y-gol and Nantclwyd, and had a son John who married Jane daughter of John Wynne of Goppa in the County of Flint; (2) William born in 1615; and (3) Jana or Jane.

William Wynne married the heiress of lands near Ruabon and here he built Wynne Hall, the date on the porch being 1649. The oldest part of the house consists of the hall with a wide fireplace, a dining room and small study and the old staircase leading to the bedrooms above. The house has been enlarged and altered since, but the old part remains with little change. William Wynne was a captain in Cromwell's army, and it is recorded in family history that his daughter Sarah said she remembered provisions being sent to him once a week over the mountains from Wynne Hall to Ruthin Castle. He was mentioned in a sermon of Dr. Williams as having a bullet stopped in its progress by his Bible, which luckily received it, but not until it had perforated as far as the

twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes. Here it rested and as might be expected this signal deliverance made a suitable impression on Captain Wynne, who like all the officers in Cromwell's army carried a Bible buttoned on the inside of the coat. The Bible was at Wynne Hall for many years but was stolen from his granddaughter Sarah Hamilton when she was at school.

The name of Captain Wynne's wife is not known or the date of her death. He had a family of four sons and four daughters, as is shown by the will of his sister Jane Wynne, made in 1665. The following extracts from this give the names of the children and show that Captain Wynne and his wife were both living in 1665:

EXTRACTS FROM THE WILL OF JANE WYNNE, OF BEAUMARIS

"Item, I give & bequeath to my nephew Hugh Wynn, my brother John Wynne's sonne, ten pounds—and to his sister Mary Wynne, five pounds."

"I give & bequeath to my brother William Wynne ffortie shillings to buy him a ringe & to his wife my sister in law twenty shillings, I give & bequeath to my nephew John Wynne, my brother John Wynne's sonne, five pounds, I give & bequeath to each of my brother William Wynne's sonnes, viz Samuel, John, Benjamin & Joseph, twenty shillings a piece, to his daughters Mary & Elizabeth I give & bequeath twenty shillings a piece likewise—All the rest, viz the residue of my goods, Cattle & Chattels movable and immovable, hereby not before bequeathed, I give devise & bequeath to my said brother's other two daughters Hannah & Sarah, whom I do constitute appoint & ordaine joynt executrices of this my last will & testament, and I do hereby revoke all former Wills & Testaments made by me—Whereas I have forgott Ellen Nicholas, I give & bequeath to her tenne shillings, I doe constitute, ordaine & appoint my Cozen William

Williams of Conway, and my nephew John Wynne, my brother John Wynn's sonne, overseers of this my last will & testament, to see it, my will, carefully performed in every respect."

At the death of Jana Wynne, her nieces Hannah and Sarah were both under age, and there is a copy of a bond by John Wynne to Sarah Wynne concerning the administration of the estate. This John Wynne was the son of John Wynne of Y Fenechtyd.

BOND BY JOHN WYNNE TO SARAH WYNNE

Extract

"The condition of this obligation is that that whereas Jana Wynne late of Boumary deceased did by her last will & testament in writing bearing date the third day of July 1665 among other things therein contained constitute ordain and appoint the above named Hanna & Sara being infants joint executors to her Will And whereas administration of the Goods and Chattels rights and credits of the said Jana Wynn during the minority of the said Hanna and Sara have been since committed to the above bounden John Wynne as in the said Will and Administration relation being thereunto accordingly had may more fully and at large appear And whereas it now appears upon an account truly settled and stated between the said John Wynne and also the above named William Wynne father of the said Hanna and Sara and Thomas Roberts of Denbigh Mercer x x x x x for and on the behalf of the said infants that there remains in the hands of the said John Wynne of the goods and Chattels debts and credits of the said Jana Wynn only to the value of forty Pounds over and above what will satisfy and discharge the legacies devised and bequeathed by the said Jana Wynne and the charges in issuing out the said letters of Administration Now if the said John Wynne, his heirs Executors or Administrators shall & will well & truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Hanna & Sara when they shall attain to the respective ages of eighteen years or their

Executors Administrators or assigns the said sum of forty Pounds with its due & lawful interest without fraud or . . . . . That then this present obligation be void and of no effect or else shall remain & be in full force and virtue."

Jana Wynne appears to have been of good social standing, for she leaves money for mourning rings to Lord Bulkeley's daughter, and to the Lady Blanche Bulkeley, and to Sir Roger Mostyn's daughter. She also leaves legacies to her cousins Owen and Mary "Coytmor". Is this another spelling of her mother's maiden name of Coedmore?

Captain William Wynne left Wynne Hall to his son John Wynne, called in the pedigree "the Counsellor". He married Elizabeth Juxon, daughter of Thomas Juxon of Mortlake, and their portraits are at Wynne Hall. The daughters all married, as John Wynne refers to Sister Hannah Williams, the children of Sister Harris, and Sister Bird. Little more is known of them, but Sarah Wynne was a person of importance. She is described as having an education beyond what was usual at that time, was accomplished and clever and of great energy and strength of mind. It is recorded of her that before her brother's death she lived either as housekeeper or companion to a lady and gentleman at Sweeney Hall near Oswestry. (The name of the people is left a blank in the record.) Whilst she was there, the master of the house was taken ill and after a time was to all appearance dead, and was placed in his coffin. Miss Wynne, however, thought that he was not quite dead, and on holding a looking-glass before his mouth, she perceived that he still breathed a little. Means were taken to recover him and he was completely restored to life and lived many years afterwards. The gratitude which he felt to Miss Wynne he showed by promising to provide handsomely for her after his death. His wife persuaded him that it was not necessary to do this by his will, for if she survived him she would take care to fulfil her husband's intentions in this respect. The old gentleman died first. When the widow died she left Miss

Wynne only £20 in money and some furniture which consisted of some worked chairs and the old tapestry which used to hang in the best bedroom at Wynne Hall, but was destroyed later on. Miss Sarah Wynne was a woman of great spirit. The family at Sweeney usually spent some part of every year in London. One night during their absence a man attempted to break through the window of her room. She always kept loaded pistols in her bedroom and discharged one at the intruder. It was supposed that he was mortally wounded as in the morning traces of blood were found on the window and a man of bad character in the neighbourhood was missed from that time.

After the death of her friends at Sweeney Sarah Wynne entered the service of the Duchess of Hamilton, went with her on a voyage to Lisbon and afterwards resided with the family in Scotland. Once in a great storm at sea coming from Scotland, when all the passengers were on their knees and the clergyman was going to pray from his book, she snatched the book out of his hand and threw it into the sea, telling him if he could not pray without a book on such an occasion his prayers were not worth much!

In 1693 Sarah Wynne married the Revd. Archibald Hamilton (see Appendix A), Minister of Corstorphine, near Edinburgh, and when fetched by him on her marriage from Wynne Hall, she rode behind him on a pillion all the way to Scotland. There was one daughter of the marriage, Sarah, and in the diary kept by her are the following notes:

"Dear Mr. Hamilton, my Father, was born in October, 1658.—

Married, 24th March, 1693, to Sarah Wynn, (my Mother). His daughter Sarah, was born on Saboth day, 29th September, and baptised 3rd October 1695.—

Mr. Hamilton (my Father) died Saterday, about 1.o'C^{k}, the 30th day of April, and was buried in the Ieal [aisle] of Corserven [Corstorphine] Church the 3d of May 1709.

"We, Mother & me came into England, May 1710. came from my . . . . . March 1713. We came to London, May the 22d 1713."

Captain William Wynne died in 1692. His son Counsellor John Wynne succeeded to the estate, but he resided chiefly in London, being a barrister according to an entry found among the notes on the Wynne family. His will was proved by his wife Elizabeth Juxon, in October, 1719. An extract from it is as follows:

"I give and devise to my said wife all my estate in the County of Denbigh to hold and enjoy the same during her life, and after her decease I devise my tenements in Glyn Kyriog to Mr. John Travers and Mr. John Taylor in trust to permit my sister Hannah Williams to receive the rents and profits thereof during her life, exclusive of her husband. And after my said wife and sister's decease I devise the same to my niece Sarah Hamilton and the heirs of her body." "I devise my tenement in Trevor to Rebecca Kenrick Junior daughter of John Kenrick and her heirs, at the decease of my wife."

A codicil was added on February 22nd, 1714, by which he revoked a legacy of land to a nephew, and devised "my said house, tenement lands and cottage and lands together with my tenement in Trevechan . . . . . after my wife's decease unto Sarah Hamilton my niece and her heirs provided she takes my wife's advice in her disposal of herself in marriage according to instructions left with my wife for that purpose. But if not, then I devise the same to be sold and the produce to be divided to and among Sister Bird's children. I also give the said Sarah following such advice, my standing goods I bought of my father" . . . . . The witnesses to this codicil were John Kenrick, Roger Green and Mary Kenrick.

At first sight it seems as if this John Kenrick must be one of the Kenricks of Wrexham mentioned in the last chapter, but

there is no "daughter Rebecca" in the pedigree or a "Mary Kenrick" at that date, and no trace of any relationship between the Kenrick and Wynne families. But John Wynne's wife, Elizabeth Juxon, was cousin to Rebecca Gethin who married Richard Kenrick of Woore in Salop. They had at least four sons, Andrew, John, Maurice and Richard, and four daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah and Rebecca. The John and Mary Kenrick who witnessed the will may have been two members of this family. John Wynne calls John Kenrick "cousin" but the term was used loosely and he may have used it when referring to his wife's cousin. It is not known if the said John had a daughter Rebecca.

Three generations of Kenricks have tried to find a connection between the Kenricks of Woore and those of Wrexham and Wynne Hall, but this is the nearest approach to one, unless there is some far away relationship through the Wynne ancestors.

John Wynne died early in 1714, and his widow made her will in March of the same year. An extract from it follows:

"Imprimis I give and bequeath unto my cosen Robert Patten of Brentford in the County of Middlesex the sum of Twenty pounds in full recompense of whatsoever he can pretend to be due to him from me or from my first husband, Mr. Douglas.

"Item I give and bequeath unto my cosen Nathaniel Byfield forty ounces of plate in full of all his demands of legacies that he pretends to claim by virtue of my late father's will.

"Item I give and bequeath unto my dear late husband's niece Sarah Harries the sum of fifty pounds. Item I give and bequeath unto my late husband's niece Sarah Hamilton the sum of twenty pounds being what I promised her to buy her a bed. . . . Item I give and bequeath unto my cosen Rebecca Kenrick widow and relict of Richard Kenrick Esq. deceased, the sum of Fifty pounds. Item I give and bequeath unto my cosin Sarah Staples, daughter of the said Rebecca Kenrick the sum of fifty pounds." The

remainder of her property she leaves to "my loving cousin Mary Kenrick eldest daughter of my said cosen Rebecca Kenrick", who is appointed Executrix.

From this will it appears that Mrs. John Wynne had a somewhat unpleasant temper and in the portrait at Wynne Hall her expression is rather peevish. She died in 1722 and was buried in Rhosddu Burying Ground, near Wrexham. The copy of the will is extracted from the Registry of the Prorogation Court of Canterbury, from which we gather that Mrs. John Wynne was not living at Wynne Hall.

Sarah Hamilton must have followed her aunt's advice in regard to marriage, for she inherited the Wynne Hall property. Her first husband was Mr. John Taylor, no doubt the one who is mentioned in John Wynne's will, but he died in a year's time. His wife writes in her diary: "My dear husband Mr. Taylor died Jan^{ry} 14th 1720. He was well the day before. God wonderfully supported me." In the notes before mentioned is this entry: "Her first husband Mr. Taylor having neglected to make a will his Property which was in land and lay near Wynnstay was lost by his Widow. In the Registry of St. Asaph there is an administration Bond, given by John Travers and Sarah Taylor, widow of John Taylor, pending a law suit, to give a true account of the effects of John Taylor her late husband." The bond is dated September 6th, 1721.

In February 1722 Sarah Taylor and the Revd. John Kenrick were married at Ruabon Parish Church.

CHAPTER III

JOHN KENRICK, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN

JOHN KENRICK, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN

JOHN WYNNE had offered a home at Wynne Hall to his widowed sister Mrs. Hamilton and her daughter, so probably they were living there at the time of Sarah Taylor's second marriage, which took place a few months after Mrs. John Wynne's death. Mrs. Hamilton remained in the home of her childhood till the end of her life. An entry in Sarah Kenrick's diary says:

"My dear Mother Hamilton died the 14th August, at four a clock, 1724, and was buried in the new burying place near Wrexham, in my Grandfather Wynn's grave, 17th of same month. Mr. Williams preached her funerill sermon on the 26th Mark & 15th verse, the same day." "Next Lord's day after, her son-in-law, Mr. Kenrick, preached a funerill sermon for her, from those words—'I was dumb' &c."

In 1725 the Revd. John Kenrick obtained a licence for preaching at Wynne Hall, in the following terms:

"These are to certify whom it may concerne, that at the Consistory Court, kept & held at St. Asaph this 2*nd day* of *September* 1725, the new dwelling house of Mr. John Kenrick in the parish of Ruabon and County of Denbigh, was certifyed & designed to be made use of, for the exercise of Religious worship by Protestant Dissenters, according to the direction of a statute made in the first year of their Majestys Reigne King William and Queen Mary, and the 3rd Certificate was registered in the Registry of the Consistory Court of St. Asaph, the day and year above mentioned.

Hue Hughes, n. P,
Reg^{r} Dept. . . ."

John and Sarah Kenrick had six sons and one daughter: John born in 1725, Archibald born in 1727, Samuel born in 1728, William born in 1729, Edward born in 1731, Sarah born in

1734 and Daniel born in 1736. There is an entry in the diary:

"My dear child Daniel Kenrick, died of the small pox on Thursday, 28th October 1736, being the eleventh day of his sickness, and the ninth month of his age."

Also "My dear Aunt Williams, died the 28th November 1736. She was near four score years ould, she had been long sick of a palsie (Her husband died the day following)." This aunt was the Hannah who was one of the executrices of Jane Wynne's will.

The Revd. John Kenrick died in 1745; a member of his congregation writing to a friend says: "He preached twice on Lord's Day, went three miles home, got up on the morning, went to prayer, then eat his breakfast as cheerful and well as ever, got up as brisk to go to his study, in the middle of his hall dropped down dead without a groan or the least motion of life after. As good Enoch, he walked with God and did not see death, for God took him. . . . . I could write and weep his loss all day . . . but will only tell you that whole sheets would not contain half his real goodness nor the great loss he is; for there are few ministers in these days will do much for nothing. He would go twenty or forty miles to heal a breach in any congregation, or do any good to the cause of religion, though all was at his own charge. . . . . Dear Mrs. Kenrick is a lovely example of submission and trust in God."

Sarah Kenrick herself says:

"My dear husband, Mr. Kenrick died the 28th January 1745, aged 61, or 63.—he preached the day before. God wonderfully preserved me, for I was near a week with out—[without sleep?]

"God in a gracious manner made good his promiss to the Widow & Fatherless, for my children were disposed of into comfortable places. Blessed be God.

"Lord grant they may be kept from the pollutions of the world, thro' Lust, and may live to the Praise & Glory of God who has been so good to us."

Of the children, John married Mary Quarrell, daughter of Timothy Quarrell of Llanfyllin in December 1750, and succeeded to Wynne Hall. Archibald became an apothecary and practised in Wrexham. He married Margaret Wilkinson and had one daughter, Sarah. This Sarah Kenrick married John Stevenson of Tipton, Staffordshire, and had two children, Sarah and Thomas, of whom more will be said hereafter. His mother notes:

"My dear son Archibald Kenrick died, May the 12th 1762, aged 35.—It was a great trial, for he was a tender, dutiful & affectionate son. Blessed be God who supported me. He lived beloved & died lamented, and the Rev^{d} Mr. Boult preached his funerill sermon. He said, he was an affectionate & dutifull son, a tender, loving husband, & a kind indulgent father. However he was hurried in the day, he would not neglect family Duty at night, he was but three days sick."

[Note added later: "Apothocary of Wrexham, caught fever attending a patient. —R.K."]

Samuel studied at Glasgow and was a man of wide reading and many interests. He will be considered separately.

William was a brazier, lived in Wrexham and died unmarried in 1793. We think his mother must have lived with him in her later years, for tradition has it that, when she visited among the neighbouring gentry (and her society was much sought after) he used to come with a lantern to fetch her home. But William was plain and homely in appearance and so he waited in the servants' hall until his lady mother was ready. The picture of her at Wynne Hall when she was very young shows her to have been fair, with high complexion and plentiful light hair.

Edward settled at Bewdley in Worcestershire where he had a tobacconist's business and became agent for Coutts' Bank in company with his brother Samuel. He married Elizabeth Hassall and died in 1799. He had two daughters who married, and also

a son John, who set up as a grocer in Birmingham and afterwards emigrated to America where he joined his cousins.

Of Sarah Mrs. Kenrick writes in her diary:

"My dear child, Sarah Kenrick died, May 26th 1757, in the 23d year of her age. She died in a very comfortable frame, some of her last words were—she was going to heaven, where she should be free from the body of sin & death, & where all tears should be wiped away from her eyes. She charged her brothers to be tender of me.—Dear Mr. Boult preached her funerill sermon. He gave her a very comprehensive character."

These extracts give a somewhat sombre picture of Mrs. Sarah Kenrick, but a letter from her son Samuel written in 1754 suggests that she was an active housewife and mindful of her children's welfare in material as well as spiritual matters. Samuel writes as follows:

1754

SAMUEL KENRICK (FROM MILLIKEN) TO HIS MOTHER M^RS JOHN KENRICK (NEE HAMILTON)

My dear Mother

'Tis above two months since I received your most kind letter by M^r Corse (together with my Bro^trs) w^ch I have never acknowledged yet. I am too sensible of the unbecoming undutiful nature of such a neglect, to offer anything in excuse of it, for let me say what I will, it must always appear blameworthy & what I am ashamed of and heartily sorry for.—But allow me to say—tho' I am far from pretending it as any excuse—That my present course of life gives me as much employment as my health and strength will admit of. My Pupils are growing up very fast and making considerable progress in their learning w^ch necessarily takes up a great deal of time. Nor is it at their books only that I accompany them, but I think it equally my duty to be present

with them at their diversions & every visit that they make. By w^ch^ means they engross almost the whole of my attention. But tho' I am often blam'd and rallied by some of my good friends for this conduct of mine, yet as it is agreeable to the Gentleman & Lady—as it is not only pleasing but rendered almost necessary to the young gentlemen by being habitual & above all as it appears highly reasonable and right to Myself, I think it my duty obstinately to persist in it as long as I continue in this employment, w^ch^ you may be sure shall not be very long—! We have been particularly busy of late & shall continue to be so for some months on account of their being intended to be sent to the College next winter.—I have already said too much of MYSELF —but you must still permit me in my own formal way, to obviate a sort of objection w^ch^ will naturally occur to you here; viz. that it is to be supposed my time was formerly restricted by the same engagements. I own that I spend in my pupils' company much about the same quantity of time as formerly, and that almost all the time w^ch^ I have to myself is what I can spare from sleep which is more necessary for them. But the reason for the difference is that in proportion to their progress in learning I am oblig'd to be at more pains in preparing myself every day for their instruction. Besides I always have in view my principal and most important design to endeavor to make all the improvement I can with relation to it by reading and meditating. And that my mind daily more & more habituating itself to assign some particular piece of work for each hour in the day, is with more difficulty drawn off to any other occasional pursuit however reasonable or necessary. But I will tire your patience no longer on this subject: but come to your letter.

I heartily join with you & Brother & Sister Kenrick in offering the most humble & grateful acknowledgement to our merciful God & Father for his generous & tender dispensations in their behalf. It gives me unspeakable joy to hear of their prosperous circumstances—that greatest of all worldly blessings

the increase of their family—& that you are preserv'd so near them to partake with them of joys w^{ch} must yield your affectionate heart the highest purest comfort. May you still be long preserved, a Blessing & comfort to all your children & may you be assisting to them in instilling into the tender minds of your grand-children the important principles of religion & virtue w^{ch} will be the best and surest foundation of their future good conduct & usefulness in life. We have all great reason to acknowledge this truth & ever to retain in our minds the most grateful remembrance of our great obligations to our dear parents on this account: And we have all of us I dare say, seen many melancholy instances of the bad effects of the want of an early good education.—I flatter myself that I shall have an opportunity sometime hereafter of tutoring some of them—for without vanity, I am pretty well experienced in that art—And if it will please the all-wise over-ruling providence to place me in a little Congregation where I may be useful & acceptable & at the same time give me an opportunity of serving my dear friends in this or any better way, I think I sh^{d} be exceeding happy.

I return you my most hearty thanks for the 2 cheeses you sent me, one of w^{ch} I gave M^{rs} Millar of Paisley & the other to M^{rs} Milliken. The reason that I did not write to you for them, was that I was loth to put you so often to this expence; as you must have so many necessary demands every day, w^{ch} I have not. And your temper is too generous to be used with too much freedom. However in return you must grant me another favour,—I insist upon it if you love me—it is to tell me freely what I can send you that will be most acceptable from this country—or if there is anything I c^{d} send you with w^{ch} you w'^{d} like to oblige a particular friend. You see I have been so free with you as to put you to the trouble and charge of sending things frequently here w^{ch} I might present my friends with. I trust you will do the same by me—when I mention a particular friend you will easily guess who I think have been such to you.—No other than M^{r} & M^{rs}

Hatchett who I am sensible have discover'd the most friendly dispositions towards you & yours on many occasions.—Nor shall I ever forget the many civilitys they shew'd me when at Home.—Shall I send you to give M^rs^ Hatchett a suit of flower'd Lawn?—or fine Thread?—or M^r^ Hatchett some flower'd Lawn ruffles wove?—please let me know by the first opportunity w^ch^ of these you think w^d^ be most acceptable: or whether there is any other friend of yours you w^d^ wish me to take notice of.

Your friends here are all in their ordinary way. M^rs^ Millar is gone into her new house where she is very comfortable lodg'd. They still keep the same hospitable good house. M^rs^ Scot and her two children board with her & M^r^ Hamilton the Minister: besides her daughter Betty & son the Captain. They all live together in great harmony & happiness—M^rs^ Millar indeed & M^rs^ Scot are not so fond of company, especially strangers as formerly.— I din'd w^th^ them at Christmas, w^th^ M^r^ Millar of Neilston & his wife, at w^ch^ time you & yours were remember'd with great respect.—At Craigton they are very well —tho' I have not seen them this great while for no other reason than that, that I write so seldom to you.—M^rs^ Lyon lives very privately at Port-Glasgow. I believe she has between £30-£40 a year of Jointure, w^ch^ is not much to one who was accustom'd to keep the good house she did while her huband liv'd.

I am extremely sorry to hear of poor M^r^ Holland's death: pray in what situation are his wife & daughters?—I shall have an opportunity of writing to you again in three weeks or a month by M^r^ Corse or somebody from Paisley to March fair. In the mean time I rest wishing you every desirable good and blessing

Your very affectionate dutiful Son

S. Kenrick.

Milliken
Jan^ry^ 14, 1754.

The next extract from Sarah Kenrick's diary is without explanation:

"O may I never forget October y^e^ 5th, 1760, it was the most

sorrowful day of my life. The Lord was gracious to me, & enabled me to bear it. Blessed be God for the comfort I had, on No^{ber} 15th 1760, being sacrament day. Lord make me humble & thankfull. Amen."

"Lord make me thankful for thy gracious manifestation of thy love to my sons, Dec^{r} 5th, 1760. May my heart be all love & my life praise. Amen. S. K."

"Blessed be God for the comfort I had in meeting my three sons, John, Samuel and William, & my three daughters at the Lord's Table, January 5th, 1766."

"O may I be thankful & never forget the goodness of God to my dear son K. who had a dreadful fall from his horse on his head. Blessed be God who preserved his life & the use of his reason. it was in May 1771. S.K."

"October 1771. It was a great plesur to me to see my son Kenrick's eldest son & daughter come to the Lord's Table. Blessed be God who inclined their hearts. Lord make me truly thankful. S.K."

Mrs. John Kenrick died in 1777. By her will dated April 28th, 1770, she leaves to eldest son John "Henry's first volume on the Bible, Dr. Baxter's works, one volume each Dr. Manton's and Dr. Evans' sermons and Mr. Philip Henry's Life". To her granddaughter Sarah (daughter of her deceased son Archibald) she leaves £50 at the age of 21, a silver watch, a silver spoon, a set of china, Mr. Henry's second volume on the Bible, Mr. Matthew Henry's *Life*, the *Life of Col. Gardiner*, the *Christian Oratory* of Mr. Bennet and White's *Power of Godliness*. If Sarah dies under age, the £50 is to be divided equally between the testatrix's sons, Samuel, William and Edward. To son Samuel Kenrick, two silver spoons, one large silver cup, one silver candlestick and a pair of snuffers. To granddaughter Mary Kenrick (his daughter) "the picture of my father and mother". To son William silver, and Mr. Henry's fourth volume and the

other books not disposed of. To son Edward a silver porringer, a silver cup, two large silver spoons, Mr. Henry's fifth volume, one volume of Dr. Manton's sermons, Fleming's *Fulfilling of the Scripture*, one volume of the Revd. Mr. Howe, one volume of the Revd. Mr. Baxter "and any other book he has a mind of". Son William Kenrick to have all the linen, "as the others have had their share". Grandchildren John, James, Timothy and Martha to have guineas each to buy Bibles. "My son John Kenrick to give the sum of £6. 19. 2 due to me from him for goods in the house at Ruabon" to his daughter Sarah and son Archibald to buy Bibles and other good books. The residue of the estate to sons William and Edward, and they executors.

CHAPTER IV

MORE ABOUT THE FAMILY

THE third son of John and Sarah Kenrick is usually known as Samuel Kenrick of Bewdley as he settled in that place and lived there for many years. He married, somewhere about 1754, Elizabeth Smith, daughter of a Scottish minister of Maybole, Ayrshire, and had one daughter, Mary, who died unmarried in 1812, a year after her father's death. She wrote a memoir of him, or else supplied notes for an account of him. Several copies of this exist, varying slightly, but the one that follows contains all the essential facts about a somewhat remarkable man:

MEMOIR OF THE LATE SAMUEL KENRICK ESQ. OF BEWDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE, FROM MEMORANDA BY HIS DAUGHTER

Samuel, 3rd. son of the Revd. John Kenrick of Wrexham, Denbighshire, was born at Wynnhall his father's house in the parish of Ruabon June 17th. 1728.

At Ruabon school Mr. Kenrick and his 5 brothers received the rudiments of their education, under the care of the Revd. Protheroe, curate of that Parish, a good classical scholar. In the autumn of 1743 Mr. Kenrick went to Glasgow. This circumstance he always dwelt upon as one of the most fortunate in his life. Dr. Hutcheson who then filled the theological chair was shortly after succeeded by Dr. W. Leechman to whom Mr. K. said he owed all those enlightened cheering views of Christianity which were his solace and comfort to the last days of his life. Indeed he never spoke of this eminent Christian Divine but with a pious enthusiasm which made an impression on his friends that no time can efface.

The Revd. Robt. Millar, minister of the Abbey Kirk, Paisley, and author of the "History of the propagation of Christianity

and the overthrow of Paganism", was an affectionate friend of Mr. Kenrick. At his house he spent his vacation from College. To him, Mr. K. read, more particularly after his blindness which lasted some years, when Mr. K. led him to church, and did everything in his power to amuse this cheerful and excellent old man. Mrs. Millar was a Kelsoe of the respectable family of Dalkeith in Ayrshire, and a cousin of Mr. Kenrick's Mother. She was a most worthy, respectable woman, and lived to see 6 sons and 2 daughters grow up with credit and comfort to their parents.

The Revd. Henry Millar, minister of Neilston 5 miles from Paisley, after his father's death, paid attention to his relation Mr. K. of which he always spoke with heartfelt gratitude. In Dec. 1747 he took the degree of M.A. In 1750 he went to reside in the house of James Millikin Esqre. of Millikin in the parish of Killbarchan, Renfrewshire, as Tutor to that gentleman's two sons, most promising youths.

The minister of Killbarchan, the Revd. John Warner, son of Wm. Warner Esq. of Ardea in Ayrshire, and first cousin of Mr. K's dear friend Revd. James Woodrow (afterwards Dr.) minister of Stevenston added greatly to the comfort of Mr. K's situation. Revd. John Warner was one of the first of men whether viewed as a teacher of Christianity or a man of letters, possessed of the greatest information on all subjects, (an excellent farmer and no contemptible painter) and withal extremely modest and reserved, a circumstance not uncommon in great characters. At his house Mr. K. spent much of his leisure time.

Mr. Kenrick witnessed the entrance of the Pretender into Glasgow in 1745, at the head of his troups; a dead silence prevailed, not one shout of approbation was heard, and only two white handkerchiefs were waved by two females of Jacobite families. Mr. K., Dr. Macknight, Dr. Woodrow, with many other students were enrolled as Volunteers to take up arms in

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defense of their King and Country; but the battle of Culloden soon settled the fate of the Pretender and his cause in Scotland.

While in Scotland Mr. Kenrick had the misfortune to lose his venerable father who died suddenly after praying with his family, in the 62nd. year of his age.

In 1759 Mr. K. and his eldest pupil Mr. Jas. Millikin, accompanied by Professor John Anderson of Glasgow made the tour of England preparatory to their visiting the Continent next year. In the autumn of 1760 Mr. K. and his pupil embarked at Harwich and landed at Helvoetsluys. They stayed some months in Holland viewing everything worthy of notice in that singular country. At the Hague he became acquainted with the learned Editor of Mosheim's ecclesiastical History, Dr. Archd. Maclaine, minister of the English church there, and conductor of a most ingenious and useful work much in the style of our Monthly Review, but which was published every 3 months. It was entitled "Biblioteque des Sciences et des beaux Arts", every number made a thick duodecimo volume. From this intelligent and benevolent man, Mr. K. derived much information with regard to the state of literature in Holland, and in Germany and other parts of the Continent.

As England was at war with France at this time, our travellers were obliged to shape their course thro' Flanders to Switzerland and Italy. They paid their respects to the celebrated Voltaire, and the no less celebrated Jean Jacques Rousseau. The former (Voltaire) amused them much by his grotesque gesticulation while one of his own plays was acting at his theatre at Ferney near Geneva, pushing and driving about the poor actors who did not please him. From him they derived much more real information and amusement than from Rousseau, whom they found a poor depressed melancholy misanthrope. A wit of the time when speaking of Voltaire of whom he draws an admirable caricature, adds very properly,

"Ne pretens pas à trop, tu ne scaurais qu'écrire
Tes vers forcent mes pleurs, mais tes gestes me font rire."

After crossing the Alps, they spent some time very agreeably at Turin. They had the friendship among others of a most valuable man, a Banker, Mr. Martin. His lady, a very amiable intelligent and interesting woman, was withal extremely hospitable to strangers, when properly recommended as our travellers were. The Duke of Grafton was at this time Ambassador from England to the King of Sardinia and his Duchess, now Lady Ossory, to her honour be it spoken, would not play at cards on Sunday, as was usual there, publickly declaring her abhorrence of the practice to the astonishment of the ladies of Turin. Mr. Kenrick and his pupil were introduced at Court, and described the King of Sardinia, Victor Amadeus, as a most worthy and respectable old man, and his son the Duke of Savoy, father of the present King, as one of the most agreeable polite and handsome men they ever met with. The ladies of the Royal Family, were most pleasing unaffected women, full of enquiries after the manners and customs of England, to which by blood they were nearly allied. Our party next proceeded to Venice where they made a long stay. Here Mr. K. had the great misfortune to lose his pupil Mr. James Millikin on the 9th. April 1763. in the 21st. year of his age, of a fever. Lord Northampton was then Ambassador from England, and to him and his amiable lady, Aunt to the present Duke of Beaufort, Mr. K. always acknowledged great obligations; they insisted on his living as much as possible with them, and did everything in their power to alleviate his great distress on losing so promising a young man.

Here and in other places Mr. K. purchased many scarce and valuable books. On his return home, he visited Rome, the House of Loretto, and Leghorn. He was so much master of the Italian language, having had the best instructions from the Abbate Pelovi, that he translated one of our celebrated tragedies into that language without losing the spirit of the original. He returned to Scotland in the course of the year 1763, and in the following year he accompanied the younger son, Mr. Alexander

Millikin to the continent. On this second tour he visited Paris, Lyons and other remarkable cities, and saw the different manufactures and other curiosities of those places. As his pupil was in a delicate state of health, they were accompanied by his brother-in-law Dr. Spens of Edinbro' At some of the German Courts to which they had letters of recommendation they spent their time most rationally and pleasantly, more particularly at that of the Elector Palatine of the Rhine, Chas. Theodore, a bachelor, sensible, grave, and gentlemanly and very attentive to his numerous guests. But at the Margrave's of Baden Dourlach, (now Baden Baden) they were quite at home. The present Empress of Russia is grand-daughter of the then Margrave. The Margravine was a woman of great reading, well versed in the English language, history, poetry and belles lettres. But her great timidity prevented her speaking English; when addressed in that language she always replied in French.

On the return of our party to England in 1765, Mr. A. Millikin died at Portsmouth, and Mr. Kenrick joined his youngest brother at Bewdley in Worcestershire, who had lately begun business as a tobacconist and snuff maker, at the same time carrying on a banking concern with the house of Thos. Coutts & Co. in the Strand.

This was the first banking house in Worcestershire. [Note by G.K. Some time previous to his settling at Bewdley, Mr. Kenrick married Miss Elizabeth Smith of Paisley in Scotland, a woman of strong sense and strict religious principles, by whom he had one daughter, author of this memoir, who as she grew up displayed considerable talents for conversation and literary taste.]

About the year 1778 Mr. Kenrick was invited by some of the principal gentlemen in Bewdley to take the management of a new Banking concern on a more extensive scale, of which he continued to be acting partner for upwards of 30 years, until from age he declined the concern entirely 21st July 1810.

He died 14 months afterwards, and repeatedly declared that these last were the happiest days of his life, which he spent in reading to his family, walking in his garden and conversing with kind and affectionate friends, whose society the peculiar gentleness of his disposition fitted him fully to enjoy. In 1767, he set on foot a Reading or Book Society at Bewdley of which until within a few years of his death he was the sole manager.

He read without glasses the smallest print at the age of 83; a pocket Testament (Greek) given him by a friend, was his constant companion till within a week of his death when he kept his bed. Indeed the sacred volume was his principal solace and delight, and he took much interest in comparing the original with the Italian, Latin, French and English versions.

He was a decided Unitarian, but perfectly free from party prejudice and bigotry. From the uprightness of his own character, being totally devoid of suspicion, he was often imposed upon by the artful and designing part of mankind. He often said with much feeling, "I thought in order to prosper in business, if a man had honesty and industry, it would do, but alas, a knowledge of character I found was necessary in order to avoid the designs of the worthless part of mankind." When confined to his bed his piety and resignation to the Divine will never for a moment forsook him, nor his affectionate concern for those who stood weeping round him. All his fear was least they should injure their health by their too close attendance upon him. But the worth of his valuable character will be best appreciated by the love and affection of all ranks to his memory. From the poor man upwards all were attached to him, for it was a delight to him to do them good.

SAMUEL KENRICK TO HIS BROTHER JOHN KENRICK

Please write to us at
M^r^. Misery's

Lausanne 11 July 1761
Switzerland.

D^r^. Bro^r^.

My last letter to your parts was to my D^r^. Mother from Brussels I don't remember the date. We left that place the 24^th^ of march and after a most entertaining ramble we arrived here the 16^th^ of may. I owe the length and amusement of this journey to the boundless curiosity of my companion, who if he hears of anything worth seeing within 10 or 20 miles he must visit it, & if another start up at a like distance from this last he is still urged to see it by the same curiosity of mind, so that in fact—had our stock of money from Brussels lasted, I doubt we should hardly have been here yet. The strait road from Brussels here is performed by the stage coach with the same horses in 10 days, but our peregrination took us up about 8 weeks tho' we always travelled post with 4 or 6 horses, that is at the rate of betwixt 8 & 10 english miles per hour. In our way we passed by several bodies of french troops going to join the army in Germany, without receiving the least molestation from them—nay we visited Aix-la-Chapelle tho' it was garrison'd with a regiment of French who only demanded our names at the gates as is done in every fortified town. This gave us a good deal of confidence with respect to this formidable enemy of ours, that we were almost tempted to go to Frankfort, w^ch^ was at that time the head quarters, to see the whole french army, But a little adventure at Crutznach, a small town in the Palatinate about 30 miles from Frankfort, deterred us from that project. There was a regiment of french Hussars lying at this place. We went as usual to see them drawn up and mustered. We had not been there above a few minutes, when a french officer came running up to us & demanded if we could speak french. We answered in the affirmative. He told us the

commanding officer desired to speak to us at the head of the regiment. Accordingly he conducted us to him. This gentleman demanded in a very haughty supercilious air, "Are you Englishmen?" We replyd "Yes we were" "What then is your business here?" We answered "That we had no real business there, but we were upon our journey to Switzerland & that our curiosity led us in passing by to take a look of his regiment". "Have you a french pass?" We answered in the negative, but we had one from the Queen of Hungary w^{ch} we deemed a sufficient security while we passed thro' a neutral country. He replied "Gentlemen you are my prisoners. The King commands here. I must send you to Frankfort to Marchal Broglie" Upon wh^{ch} he ordered an officer to guard us & conduct us to Frankfort. Immediately after this officer took me aside & whispered in my ear "If I would give the Colonel a few guineas he would let us pass". I assured him that I would not give him one farthing, that the scandalous proposal shocked me & desired him to tell his colonel that it was so far from being a disappointment that we looked upon it as a lucky accident to find thereby an opportunity of seeing the whole French army & the city of Frankfort. We repaired to our lodgings attended by the guard with orders to prepare for our journey. When we were just ready for departing another officer arrives from the Colonel desiring to see our passport wh^{ch} we allowed him to carry to the Colonel. He returned with it in a few moments & in the Colonel's name, like a polite frenchman, begged a thousand pardons for the trouble He had given us, but that his office oblig'd him etc. etc. That we were at liberty to go where & when we pleased. We took him at his word, & without the least inclination to have any further commerce with the french army we posted away as if we had escaped from a den of Highwaymen. The next day we past thro' an irish regiment [in the french service] at Worms without taking the least notice of them or they of us. Nor saw any more of them.

As to the countrys we have passed, they are very diffrent from each other. What is called the Austrian Netherlands of w^ch^ Brussels is the metropolis, is all a fine rich flat country, not the least hill hardly to be seen, & all excessively well cultivated, particularly the east & south-east side towards Maestric and Namur. I never saw finer fields of wheat.—they plow without ridges—w^ch^ in spring make the whole country appear—as they have neither hedges ditches nor other fences—like an immense Bowling green. It resembles much the flats of Cambridgeshire. Their horses are all black of a large size, high before, with short necks & thick shoulders & in very good order. I enquired particularly about the wealth & manner of living of the farmers. I was pleased with the good outside they all shew'd in their manners, dress & chearful healthfull countenance. But was assured that they are most grievously oppressed by their masters & landlords, that the most favourable thing they could say of their situation was that they were infinitely happier than their poor neighbours of the bishopric of Liège or than any of the french subjects. These Liègeois their neighbours are indeed the most miserable wretches, if poverty, nakedness and nastiness are the ingredients of human misery, that my eyes ever beheld. And all this is the effect of ecclesiastical tyranny under w^ch^ they groan. The city of Liège is a stricken picture of ancient grandeur in decay. They reckon a 100,000 inhabitants and 100 churches in it at this day. To me it is an inexplicable mystery how its inhabitants patiently stay at home to endure such oppressive misery, when they see others about them enjoying more ease and comfort. The wise author of nature, no doubt has provided mankind with this passive resignation to the injustice of their fellow creatures, or rather has permitted this cruel insolence & tyranny of superiors for some wise end & no doubt it may be said that our aversions to distress are relat[ive to our cir]cumstances and when a person is brought up in poverty & rags & [dirt he knows] no better, his mind is almost reconciled to it. But this will neve[r excuse or]

vindicate the barbarity of their oppressors. In general begging [is regarded as] an authorized, creditable profession in all roman catholic countr[ys. The approaches] of their numerous churches, where some service or other is alw[ays proceed]ing, are constantly crowded with persons of this character of both [sexes & of all] ages. The priests, for what reason it is not easy to say, are fore[ver address]ing their audiences upon the necessity & merit of charity withou[t 16 letters missing] least making a distinction between real charity & [17 letters missing] nurses up whole families in idleness & a mean culp[able dependence] upon the humanity of others w^{ch} they have no right [to]. In pr[otes]tant countries such as Holland & this country & Geneva particularly [there] is no such thing. From Namur we came to Luxembourg thro' the county of that name. This is near 100 miles of a barren hilly country. It was anciently a forrest & tho' at present it is not covered with wood it has a poor wild look. From thence to Triers is a most charming country, on one side you have a rising declivity covered with vineyards—at the bottom the river Moselle w^{ch} gives its name to the wine that is made here, with a rich flat country on both sides. Triers, like other catholic towns, makes a poor decayed appearance altho' the seat of an Arch-bishop and Elector of the Empire. From thence to Creutznach a^{bt} 70 miles of as mountainous a country as you have to the west of you. From thence to Switzerland is a prodigious valley bounded with the mountains of France on one side, those of Germany on the other with the river Rhine running thro' the midst of it. Here you find vineyards, woods, heath, the soil is generally light and sandy—the common crops are rye. The labour of tillage &c seems to be carried on by the women entirely. I must stop here may the blessing of God ever attend you and yours. When I write to one I intend it to you all. B^{r} Arch^{d} may expect my next, S. K.

[The blanks are caused by tearing away of paper under seal.]

We come, now, to the next generation, the children of the second John Kenrick of Wynne Hall. They were: Mary born

in 1751, John born in 1753, Sarah born about 1755, James born in 1757, Timothy born in 1759, Archibald born in 1760 and Martha born in 1762.

John, afterwards the third John Kenrick of Wynne Hall, married Sarah Savage and died in 1823. The children of the marriage were: John born in 1782, died young; Sarah born 1783; Mary born 1785, died unmarried; Martha born 1786, married George Lewis of Wrexham; Elizabeth (Betsy) born 1788, married Paul Eppelin; Lydia born 1789; Samuel Savage born 1791, married and had one daughter; Dorothy born 1792; Richard born 1793, died young; Anne; William born 1796, married Sarah Edmonson and lived at Wynne Hall, dying in 1865; and Edward born 1801, married and went to America.

The children of William Kenrick of Wynne Hall and Sarah Edmonson were: William Wynne, John, Arthur Hamilton, Llewellyn, Herbert Archibald, and Sarah Savage who married Thomas Edward Minshull.

CHAPTER V

TIMOTHY AND ARCHIBALD

TIMOTHY AND ARCHIBALD

CHAP. V

OF the other children of the second John Kenrick of Wynne Hall, Mary is a rather shadowy figure; she is "Miss Mary Kenrick, Mr. Kenrick of Plas Gwern's daughter", admitted as a member of the Presbyterian Chapel, Chester Street, Wrexham, on February 7th, 1773. The old name of Wynne Hall was Plas Gwern. James was a tobacconist and banker in Hope Street, Wrexham, and died unmarried in 1824.

In the letters and notes that follow, the lives of Timothy, Archibald and Martha will be given, so no further mention of them is necessary. The families of this Timothy and Archibald kept up a close correspondence, but no letters have been found from the children of John the third, though Lydia and Betsy are mentioned in Miss Rebecca Kenrick's diaries.

John Kenrick must have written to his brother Samuel, suggesting that Timothy should live with him and be coached, before going to Daventry to study for the ministry.

SAMUEL KENRICK TO HIS BROTHER JOHN

Bewdley 15th. Decr. '73

Dr. Bro[r].

I write you this on your son Timothy's acct. whose success in life and improvement in his studies, I have greatly at heart—not only from his relation to me—but for his own real merit—his engaging manners and promising talents.

I am most heartily disposed to do everything in my power to assist him in his literary pursuits—& had there been a good school in this town, or were I myself in the schoolfaring way, I should not have hesitated one moment to have bestowed upon him gratis every assistance in my power. But you know my confined situation—& how disagreable it is for one engaged in one course of life to be interrupted by anything else:—this is most sensibly felt by your studious people—as I often experienced during the time that I had pupils here: & wch. determined me to give up that occupation as soon as I could. Nor is it only disagreable in itself but still more in its consequences as it puts it out of my power to do justice to my pupils. This is the sole reason for my

only giving a general wch. perhaps you may think too cool an invitation to your son to come to Bewdley. I am sensible that I cannot bestow upon him the time and pains wch. ought to be done & wch. I wd. with pleasure do wd. my other engagements in life permit me. All I can pretend to is an occasional assistant but not a constant tutor,—to bestow an hour or so in a day upon him, as other necessary avocations may allow; in which I should like to read over with him what he has already learnt in latin and greek—and might teach him french and italian—or read English together. And this he is always welcome to—and to the use of my little library: wch. by a serious student will be looked upon rather as the amusement of vacation time, than close solid business. So that whenever you think he can do no better than this—& he be fond of coming himself—let him by all means come to me.

I am much obliged to you, Sister, & all your family for your civilities to my strolling hopefuls. Onely I was affraid they would never have left you & live at home on bread cheese again after so much stuffing and feasting on rich delicacies However they do nothing but talk of Wales since they came home—like the Israelites of the flesh-pots of Egypt—& seem to be longing to be back with you again. If they come you know who you have to blame for it. Molly has been but poorly since she came home. But she is now on the mending hand.

Sister Edward is not come home yet. All friends well—& join me in our best wishes and respects to you & yours. I am

Dr. Bro[r].

Yours affectly. S. Kenrick

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS SISTER MARTHA

(Daventry) Jan. 4. 1776

Dear Sister.

I wish you (what perhaps thro' the frequent repetition of it, at this season, may appear an unmeaning complement), a long

series of happy years; but I dare say you view it in a different light when coming from a Brother, not as a mere compliance with an established custom, but as the earnest wish of a sincere heart.

That general cold which you speak of, has been severely felt in this part of the World; out of two or three & twenty persons, in our family, not above one or two escaped it. I was attacked very severely by it for a few days, but it at last ran off by my Nose, which suffered a little by the confusion & hurry with which it, the enemy entered those narrow passages. It seems to have visited almost every part of the Kingdom & is generally supposed to be owing to the bad state of the air at that time: on that account Physicians call it an Influenza. I have been entirely free from the Gil-blains this Winter, owing to the mildness of the weather, or perhaps more to the constant good fire which we have kept ever since the cold weather commenced; this has cost us the enormous quantity of 20 hundred of coals; yet neither I nor my Chum are very extravagant in that respect.

The room in which we live is rather a small one, but not the less agreable on that account, for it makes it so much the warmer which is no very contemptible recommendation amidst the bleak winds of Northamptonshire; you will perhaps think that this will be a very great temptation with me to lie in bed, but I can assure you however strong it appears, that it has not prevailed with me, to indulge myself so far as to forfeit, since the vacation; this will appear almost incredible to you, who have been so often witness to my want of resolution in that respect. next to the advantage of a good room is that of a good Closet, which I enjoy to a considerable degree, but seldom sit in it long at this season. I have spent all the Christmas holydays at Daventry, one day only excepted, when I went to Northampton, about the distance of 12 miles from hence; our principal view in this excursion was to hear a Moravian Preacher, much celebrated for Pulpit Oratory, nor were our expectations disappointed,

for he had the most pleasing, engaging, address of any man I ever heard. this journey though so very short made a deep chasm in my pocket-money; however it is the first I have ever taken since I came into Northamptonshire.

I was to see the Miss Ashworths, (who are removed from hence & live now in a very retired manner) a little while ago. The youngest of them, you know, has long been in a declining way; she seems to be rather worse than usual at this time, owing very probably to the bad state of the weather; they have asked me to come & spend an evening with them whenever I have time: this opens a prospect of much improvement as well as entertainment, for they are both very sensible women & very communicative. Thus have I finished this long & tedious account of my self & affairs: which however, will be excusable as it will come but once a year at a time when It is common to deliver up accounts. There is very little difference between Christmas & other times with respect to us who continue at Daventry, except that time passes on more tediously for want of our usual variety of business; for amusements & diversions we have none; there is indeed one essential difference, between this vacation & our common time, and that is, that we may lie a bed as long as we please, without the least disturbance which is rather to be looked upon as a disfavor than an advantageous priviledge, since it will make it more difficult to get up at the usual hour, when we have long endulged ourselves in the contrary practice.

I was not a little disappointed, with receiving no letter from Cos. Ralph in return for one which I wrote to him soon after I came from home: the pleasure & entertainment which I promised myself from the epistolary correspondence of a young Man of such parts, makes my present situation the more painful: what can be the reason of his not writing I can't conceive. B. John too is one of my silent correspondents, please to inform him that he is in my debt. I am happy to think that every one of my correspondents will be in my debt when I have wrote this, but I

should be glad they would pay their debts better, if not with interest, yet I hope the principal entire, by which I mean a letter of an equall length, adieu! yours

T. Kenrick

P.S. Mr. Belsham one of our Tutors has just published a sermon on X zeal

Addressed to Miss M. Kenrick
Wynn Hall
to be left at Mr. Will^{m} Kenricks
Wrexham.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Chester 3 Dec. 1776

Dr. Coz. Tim.

I receivd your last with particular pleasure, & intirely coincide with you in those just reflections you have made in pursuing my Idea of what ought to be the temper & character of a Philosopher—I form the most pleasing hopes that the accuracy of judgment & goodness of heart which you appear to possess in so eminent (shall I say extraordinary) a degree, will render you an ornament to that profession you are taking upon yourself and an extensive blessing to mankind.

I think I could pursue with some advantage those hints you have given concerning Pulpit-Oratory; but will my d^{r} T. excuse me if I cannot at present collect my thoughts sufficiently for the undertaking—By the time you receive this, you will have been informed of the connexion, formed I would fain hope on the basis of solid, rational esteem and affection. Can I be mistaken when I persuade myself that the real Goodness & Sincerity of her mind, improved by a religious Education will not fail to secure to me that happiness to which so many in the world are entire Strangers for want of attending to these important particulars? The plan of Life I had laid down she is acquainted with,

& I have reason to believe entirely approves, and I flatter myself it is such an one as will (to use your own expression) "give a still higher polish to the enjoyments of youth and smooth the ruggedness of old age"; it will certainly do so if Religion, Regularity & a liberal Aeconomy in the enjoyment of a competence are capable of producing these desirable effects. Let me add in the sincerity of my heart that the happiness I expect in a near connexion with such an amiable family will be complete when I can call by the endearing appellation of Brother one I already so much esteem as yourself—so much indeed that the term tho' new to my lips will be almost all I shall have to learn—Let me hear from you soon & believe me

Y^rs^ very affectionately

Ra Eddowes

my next shall apologize for the shortness of this—if you fell into Scylla (w^ch^ I can by no means allow) I have sous'd into Charybdis over head & ears.

This letter announces the engagement of the writer to Timothy's sister Sarah Kenrick. They were married the following year. Ralph Eddowes must have been an intimate friend of the family, but as far as we know there was no relationship. "Coz" was used as a term of friendship, probably.

Timothy Kenrick became a teacher at the Academy at Daventry and in November 1783 he was invited to minister to the United Congregations at Exeter. This invitation was accepted and he began his ministry there in 1784.

In March 1785 he proposed to Mary Waymouth and they were married the same year.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO MARY WAYMOUTH

London April 23—85

My Dear Miss Waymouth

I arrived here on Tuesday last, I have been very much ingaged since I came, yet I cannot deny myself ẏ^e^ pleasure of writing to you to inform you how much you are in my thoughts amidst all ẏ^e^ variety of Scenes through which I am continually

passing—my first object after I came to London was to see Mrs. Siddons act, & I had ye pleasure to see her in a very interesting character—Desdemona in Othello. I shall not attempt to give you any nice criticisms upon her performance but I will only tell you that I joined ye rest of ye Audience in paying a tribute of respect to her powers, more expressive than any words ye house was full but not crouded, which is accounted for by her performing so frequently. from Mrs. Siddons I went to see ye learned *Pig:* it happens to be ye fashion amongst ye polite World, to visit this wonderful animal. I was not a little amused to see 50 well dressed Ladies & Gentlemen sit arownd ye room, with grave countenances to observe ye actions of a black, dirty, Hog: yet I must acknowledge that he does many things wch. appear very extraordinary, in ye evening I went to see Walker's Eidouravion & to hear a Lectiere upon Astronomy at ye Haymarket; ye audience was very numerous, & not less attentive than in hearing Mrs. Siddons, or in observing ye learned Pig.

I have seen Mr. Milford & Mr. Wm. Holmes. they have lost their cause before ye House of Commons by ye influence of ye Chamber of Exeter, who brought their friends to sit at ye Committee & to tire out ye friends of ye citizens by protracting ye business.

The exhibition of Paintings at Somerset House opens on Wednesday next: I shall stay here no longer than that day—on Thursday I intend to set out for Exeter in company I believe with ye two Miss Peckfords, if my Heart was not already ingaged, I should not think it in great danger on this occasion.

It is now late & I am much fatigued with ye business of ye day—I wish you a good night & remain my dear Miss Waymouth

y^r^ friend & h^ble^ serv^t^

T. Kenrick.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS WIFE

Chester, Sept^{r} 2d. 1785

My dear Maria

My last Letter gave you an accownt of my safe arrival at Wrexham I will now acquaint you with my transactions since that time; to any other person I should not venture to relate them, but however unimportant in themselves, I flatter myself, they are not wholely uninteresting to you—Y^{e} following day after my arrival was taken up with $\overset{e}{y}$ Ordination of Mr. Brown $\overset{e}{y}$ service exceeded in length that at Exeter on $\overset{e}{y}$ same occasion, lasting from $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour after 10 o'clock, till $\frac{1}{2}$ after two. so as to tire $\overset{e}{y}$ Patience of $\overset{e}{y}$ Audience & to make some of them sick for $\overset{e}{y}$ want of their dinners: $\overset{e}{y}$ part allotted to me in $\overset{e}{y}$ business of $\overset{e}{y}$ day was what I wished for, that of introducing $\overset{e}{y}$ service—Mr. Belsham delivered $\overset{e}{y}$ same charge which I had received at Exeter $\overset{e}{y}$ Sermon to $\overset{e}{y}$ People was preached by Mr. Gentleman of Kidderminster, $\overset{e}{y}$ number of Ministers was but small, not I believe more than ten but $\overset{e}{y}$ congregation was a very good one considering $\overset{e}{y}$ badness of $\overset{e}{y}$ day. On Thursday I accompanied Mr. Belsham to Chester to take $\overset{e}{y}$ coach for Daventry, here he met Mr. Yates of Liverpool who came there by appointment in order to talk over $\overset{e}{y}$ Warrington business, & to prevail upon him if possible to accept of $\overset{e}{y}$ Academy, but I apprehend with little prospect of success. I returned $\overset{e}{y}$ same evening to Wynnhall about five miles from Wrexham $\overset{e}{y}$ place of my nativity & $\overset{e}{y}$ residence of my Father & Mother. here I had $\overset{e}{y}$ pleasure of meeting them & all my Brothers & Sisters from London, Wrexham, Chester & Whitchurch—such a meeting, after a long absence you may imagine must be peculiarly agreable, there was but one circumstance which prevented me from completely enjoying this interview with my friends, $\overset{e}{y}$ want of your prescence to add to $\overset{e}{y}$ number. it would have given me $\overset{e}{y}$ highest satisfaction to present you to them on this occasion & it would have heightened $\overset{e}{y}$ joy of this

happy Meeting. Wynnhall is situated in a pleasant country, where ye luxuriance of a rich soil & high cultivation is contrasted with lofty & barren hills, this makes it a delightful spot but there is another circumstance that renders it much more interesting to me, it is ye place where I was born & educated by which means I have connected with it a variety of pleasing Associations. every Field & every tree reminds me of some past occurrence & brings to my mind ye history of ye first part of my life—but ye view of these objects now fills me with melancholy Ideas from ye want of your company to enliven ye scene.

I spent ye Lordsday at Wrexham & preached both for Mr. Boult & Mr. Browne: ye former of these gentlemen is old & superannuated, yet he continues to preach, but speaks without his Notes because he is not able to read them—on Wednesday last I removed to Chester to spend a few days with Mr. & Mrs. Eddowes: while I have been here I have been entertained with seeing a young gentleman of ye name of French ascend with one of Mr. Lunardi's Balloons. Ye Appearance was very new & striking & filled me with sensations which I cannot often expect to feel in my lifetime. ye day was very favourable & we had ye pleasure to see him till he was lost in a cloud, but from which he soon emerged & moved slowly before ye wind untill ye Balloon was too much diminished to be visible to ye eye—he descended near Macclesfield at ye distance of about 40 Miles from whence he entered ye City this afternoon in triumphal Pomp being carried in a chair by ye Populace preceded by a number of horsemen in Procession a band of Musick & accompanied by a vast croud of People who assembled to see ye Aerial traveller.

I am very impatient to know how you & Miss Lucy are after your removal to Dawlish. I expect to receive a Letter on my return to Ruabon with a very particular accownt of you—on Saturday next I set out for Whitchurch, where I shall stay till Tuesday or Wednesday in ye following Week & from thence

return to me friends in ye country—on Monday ye 12t of Septr I propose to set out for Exeter but I shall write again

Adieu. T. K.

love & compts as usual.

TIMOTHY TO HIS FATHER

May 3. 1786

Dear Father.

I sincerely thank you & ye rest of my friends for your kind congratulations on ye occasion of an event which has added so much to my happiness. your cautions remind me that I am not removed beyond ye reach of trouble. I know indeed that as our injoyments are multiplied, ye objects for ye hand of affliction become more numerous, but while I join with you in returning thanks to that good Providence which has placed me in my present circumstances I leave it to ye same power to dispose of us.

The business of receiving & returning visits is now pretty well over, & allows us to injoy a little domestic quiet, but we are proceeding to other business, that of altering our habitation—we find it necessary to take up some of ye old floors & to lay down new ones, as well as to give something of a more decent appearance to ye front of ye House: when these things are finished which will hardly be before ye middle of June, we propose in Company with Miss Waymouth to make you a visit in Wales, if it should be convenient for you to receive us at that time.

It gives me concern to find that you have had a sore leg. I know your active temper, & I am afraid that you will not allow it that indulgence which is necessary but I hope you will prudently consider that a short voluntary confinement may prevent one that is longer & involuntary.

I am glad to find that Archibald is again in imployment: if his present connections are not quite so agreable as he could wish, yet they furnish him with something to do & place him in

ȳ way of what he may esteem better. I have had several Letters from him by which I learn that Mr. W^{m} Hunt has behaved in a very friendly manner to him.

it gives me pleasure to hear, on his own as well as your accownt, that Mr. Boult is removed to Chester it must be very painful to you to behold a friend whom you once respected sunk into a second childhood. The Apple Trees in this Country exhibit a plentiful appearance of blossom, but we are afraid that ȳ severe cold which we have had for some days, & which still continues, will greatly injure if not ruin ȳ Crop. great complaints are made by ȳ housekeepers of ȳ high price of provisions, at this time. but I cannot learn from what cause ȳ scarcity proceeds; ȳ country is covered with a fine verdure, but there is another evil which affects ȳ inhabitants of Devonshire more than ȳ scarcity of provisions, & that is ȳ high price of Wool, which is now double of what it had used to be. persons have been sent to London to meet delegates from other Counties & they have resolved to apply to Parliament. My wife joins with me in presenting her duty to yourself & my mother & in love to Bro^{s} & Sisters.

Y^{r} aff^{t} son

T. Kenrick.

I have just heard from Whit^{ch} I am glad to find that they are all well.

[Lucy, daughter of Timothy, was born in March 1786.]

Archibald Kenrick was apprenticed to an ironmonger (we should now say an "ironfounder") in Birmingham, but the date is unknown. In a diary that he began to write in 1787, he records that he was starting in business as a maker of shoe buckles, and there are many details of the difficulties met with. The diary was kept intermittently for about two and a half years and records his thoughts and feelings as well as business details and social engagements. He appears to have been a shy self-conscious young man, the Puritan tradition still causing him to break out in moral reflections and producing rather morbid self-examination. But he had good power of observation and some interest in matters beyond his business. He was sociable by nature but diffident—the entry after an evening party "wished to be lively but could not" will arouse sympathetic feelings. Another

entry shows him with more self-confidence: "danced with Miss Ann Ryland, felt my old awkwardness at first but quite easy after, think a little practice would make me a tolerable dancer, she was soon tired danced but 3 dances". He was on friendly terms with the Rylands, Russells, Skeys and other Birmingham families, including that of Dr. Priestley, whose kindness was most gratifying to the young man.

In December 1790 he married Rebecca, daughter of Joseph Smith of Hay Hall near Birmingham, whose mother was a sister of Robert Bakewell of Dishley in Leicestershire, the celebrated farmer and stock breeder.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS REBECCA SMITH ON HER MARRIAGE TO MR. ARCHIBALD KENRICK

Miss Russells unite in kind love to Mrs Kendrick beg leave to express to her their congratulations on the important connexion she has lately entered into, and hope she will believe them sincere when they assure her it is their ardent wish that every idea of present, or future happiness, she can have formed, may be abundantly realized.

Miss R—s hopes to have an early opportunity of calling on Mrs Kendrick—

Mr Russell begs to present Compliments of congratulation to Mr and Mrs Kendrick.

Showell Green
December 21st (1790)

The Priestley riots occurred in July 1791, when Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Kenrick were staying with John Kenrick and his wife at Whitchurch, Salop. This John was afterwards the third John Kenrick of Wynne Hall.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS BROTHER ARCHIBALD

Shrewsbury, July 16th, 1791

Dear Archibald

Your friends at Birmingham may not perhaps be able to inform you immediately of what took place there last Thursday, ye 14th of July and ye anniversary of ye French Revolution, from

being uncertain where a letter will find you. I therefore send you what I have heard, to quiet ye apprehension if they should be awakened by any vague report, which usually magnifies evils. A mob assembled on this day at ye Hotel, irritated it is supposed by an inflammatory Handbill attributed to Dr Priestley, but disclaimed by him—they broke ye windows of ye house with stones and dispersed ye company. they afterwards set fire to ye New Meeting House wh. they burnt down and would have done ye same to ye Old but for fear of further mischief by setting fire to ye adjoining houses, they contented themselves with pulling it down: ye next sacrifice was ye Doctor's furniture and papers. at his house in ye country ye *house* is said to be spared on account of its not being his property. ye Doctor himself retreated from ye fury of ye populace in a Post-chaise to Dudley. I do not hear that injury was done to ye person of anyone or to any private dwelling. this is all that I have heard concerning this business. ye intelligence does not come by Letter but from ye passengers in and belonging to ye Mail coach, however, I believe ye substance of ye report may be depended upon. I have not time to mention ye reflections wh. arise in my mind upon this atrocious act of ye enemies of Freedom. I wish ye clergy may not be found to be at ye bottom of this business.
Please to give my love to my sister and Miss Smith.

I remain your affectionate Brother

T. KENRICK

P.S. Ye mail coach is just come in, ye Guard sais that Mr Taylor's house at Borsley with half a dozen others in ye country were burnt down and several in ye town pulled down—I have heard a letter read from Dr Priestley in wch. he states his loss at three thousand Pounds. His loss in MSS. is irreparable.

MRS. A. KENRICK TO HER HUSBAND [1791]

Addressed to:
Mr Kenrick,
St. Paul's Square,
Birmingham.

[Whitchurch]
Saturday Morning

My dear Archibald I received all your letters in proper time and intended to have wrote yesterday but Mrs. Kenrick informed me that the post did not go out on Friday, which I find was a mistake. I thank you for the full account you have given us of the proceedings in Birmingham dreadful as they were—had I known at the time you set out the unhappy necessity there was for your going, how miserable should I have been. we expected your letters each day with the greatest anxiety Mr Genkyns was always here at the opening of them and though I did not shew them I was obliged to read them for the satisfaction of the company—your last brought us comfort. I am very glad to hear my father is gone to Bristol. I grieve to think how much his spirits must have been haried. you tell us nothing about Hannah in your last but we conclude she is with Mrs Hancox, and we shall be extremely happy to return home though our friends here are very civil—we intend setting out on Monday morning and think it will be not worth while for you to come further than Walsal as it would only add to the fatigue—there we hope to meet you to drink tea which your brother says will be between five and six o'clock.—Mrs K.—improves upon acquaintance and we have spent our time much pleasanter than we expected—if it was not for her formal provoking ways and the noise of the children two or three of which we generally have to nurse,—on monday we drank tea at Mrs. Eddowes's and played at pope joan for a penny a dozen on tuesday we drank tea at Mrs Brookes's a very genteel lady whom we honoured with our best attire. on wednesday we took a ride to Belvidere from whence we had a most delightful and extensive

prospect we saw Wales very plane and could distinguish Mr Parry's house you know Winnhall is not far distant and we saw it in imagination—on thursday we went to Hawkstone and a most delightful day for the purpose Mr Genkyns and Mr John Churton were of the party, and they made a very agreable addition. I think I never was so pleased with a place in my life the grandeur of the rocks the beauty of the woods and variety and extent of the prospect formed altogether a most pleasing assemblage, if you had been there it would have been perfect I never wanted you so much to point out its different beauties for I don't view a prospect now with the same eyes I formally did—After our return which was six o'clock we attended Mr Cary at the Assembly room he professes the art of immitation and is indeed a most excellent mimick he took off several of the actors and actresses and publick singers of the former and present day with great success and filled the room with laughter when his exhibitions was over the company proposed a dance—a fiddler was immediately procured and to it we went. Fatigued as I was I could not resist the pleasure of going down two dances with Mr Churton—To-day we drink tea with Mrs Farnsworth, and we are going to ride out with Mr Genkyns this morning—I wrote to my Mother last tuesday and also to my Aunt—All here unite in love remember us to all enquiring friends in the pleasing expectation of meeting you on monday.

I remain affectionately yours

REBECCA KENRICK

P.S. We have been very much diverted at the direction of your letters to Mrs R.K.——

JOHN KENRICK TO HIS SON ARCHIBALD

Addressed to Mr A. Kenrick
Plater
S. Pauls
B'gh'm

RUABON, Oct. 5. 1791

Dear Archie,

I cou'd make a many excuses in not answering your letter sooner, but shall leave that to your filial regard which will I don't doubt attribute it to the hurry of Harvest etc We had very good weather for Hay and corn, but my man took it in his head to leave me the beginning of Harvest without giving any reason but that he could get more money by day Labour at Liverpool, so that it put me to great inconveniency having non but two boys and a workman all the harvist and your mother as badly off for Dairy-maid. We are glad to hear that your strenuous defenders of church and king are quiet there actions will be lasting stigma upon your town, our poor Welsh Colliars are more governable then they and less savage Barbarty. Martha is not returned from Gwynfrin Theophilus is returned home last week he has had call to Nutsford in Chesier I believe will accept of it tho' but a small congragation he tells me you have rejected Dr. P—ly's offer of coming Back to you—he things you do not use him well. I design breaking your Coult soon as I think its a good time for you to part with your mare the Hunting season as she is a good leaper and the Coult can do your business very well as you have no long journeys to goe he is in very good condition and very wanton no hedge will keep him. I hear you have been at Ditcley you'l let us know what you have seen most remarkably his cattle are keept to high to live in a Poor Country cattle that come from Baran lands will improve when they come to a better soil— Cheese run very high, new cheese goe to 45/- and 46/6 sent in Directly.

So John I hear is come down I suppose he shew'd you the acco[t]. between him and me there is 160 £ due to me from him which he Promised to pay you and get your note of hand for to me. We had a letter from Timothy last week. they have had little bustle in his place which you have heard but are all quiet now. Mrs Buttall is but very poorly is going to Bath can't Persuad him to goe with her suppose she'l call of you. I have heard since I wrote the above the Doctors are against her going to Bath. have seen Son John to-day, says has paid you 160£ upon my acco[t]. his wife and he talkes of coming to Ruabon next week. Your Mother and Molly joyn me best wishes for your wealfare with kind love to my Daug[r].

I remain

Your affect[ate] Father

JOHN KENRICK.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM SAMUEL KENRICK TO TIMOTHY [1791]

"Your aunt & cousin have gone to Birmingham on a visit to Archibald & to settle my nephew John who has undertaken his master's business of Grocer & Tallow chandler, a very serious undertaking for so young a man."

JOHN KENRICK TO HIS SON ARCHIBALD

Dr. Son, Ruabon Jan. 5, 1792

Having this opportunity by Son John of ackowled[g]. the receipt of yours which rece[d]. last night would not let it slip without let you know we are all well.

Son John has sent Peter here for the coult and he takes Mary Harris to Whitchurch to be with his wife in his absence— he surprised us by tell[g] us that his wife expects to ly in about three weeks time.

Daug[r]. Mary is to goe there as soon as she gets ride of a cold. You'l ride the coult gently as he is but young and not long

journeys tho' he's very hardy and very free for going on and will go at great rate but he shou'd not be forsed to his full speed but very seldome least you shou'd strain his sinous and bring on a spavin, he has no bad tricks but does not stand well in shoeing so you shou'd goe to see him shoed least the Smith shou'd abuse him he does best by gentle means. I have road several times to Wrex[m]. I never was carried better I think he'l make a very valuable horse. As to the breeding horses I think Cowes more proffitable as they liable to so many accidents we have 2 lame at his time. I find by Experien that a small cow gives as much milk as a large one and some of our little Welsh Cowes ans[r]. very well for the Dairy, tho there is good and bad of all sort they can't be known till try'd. We are sorry to hear of my Daug[r]. being ill but are glad she is so well recover'd. Suppose your leg is well as you forgot to let us know how it was for your Mother was anxious to hear from you on that acc[t]. we are afraid trade in your way is but dul as we hear you have Petition the Royal family to ware Buckles. how does Cos. John goe on in the grocery its very brisk with James at Wrex[m]. I heard nothing of the tryals you sent him. We are glad you have had Parson that is agreeable to you to succeed the Dctr. we shall send you for his sermon upon forgiving our enemies. Your Mother desires your wife will take care of Self, all joyn in wishing you happy return of this season. Yours etc.

JOHN KENRICK

JOHN KENRICK TO ARCHIBALD

Dear son Arch[d]. Ruabon July 12. 1792

I have at last sat down to let you know that we arrived safe at home found all well, and to thank you and all friends for their kind entertainment we received at Birmingham. We came to W[t] Church by 8 o'clock had a Pleasant journey, we stay'd there till Saterday. set out after Dinner and arrived at home just before son Timothy who is in good health tho' loocks thine he

Preach'd last Sabbath both morn^{g} and even^{g}. Mr Brown and wife being both gone to Liverpool to Bath in the sea. Timothy and Martha goes to Chester to be at Mr Eddowes the 14th he does not return here but Preaches at Chester next Sabbath day and goes from thence to Wt. Church so we shall have but little of his company. Son John was here this week he Propoposes that he and James should become Partners with us in the trying for coal to Prevent Parry and his partners having a majority in his Interest so that the expence and Profits will be devided to 6 shares which will be but small. Mr Parry is but Poorly is going for a week to Liverpool to Bath in the sea when he comes back we are to appoint a day to meet settle Preliminarys. Your Mother and I are concern'd about John he can't spare any money to come to try for Coal, without he can get ride of the concern at Birm^{m} I've been thinking if they cou'd get a study Person to be Partner with them that cou'd advance Part of the money so carry it on in three shares. if the Profits ware less they run less hazard. I think W—n is to full of new schames such another as old Wilkinson, my daug^{r}. at W^{t} Church is quit out of conciet of him, indeed I think she has reasons. Martha has been very busy has made great many alterations which she call improvements indeed she has taken great care of everything and keept the servants very Diligent. But they ware all very glad to see us come home to take the care of their hands. she'l ans^{r} my daughters letter very soon, there is no keeping the 14th at Liverpool better wait till the storm is over, we have begone to mow our clover in the fron tho the weather is very unfavourable we can't get the measons to build the Cart-house yet, there is such great call for them.

Timothy designs being with you later end of this month or beginning of next. we all joyn in kind love to you both wishing health and happiness and all other needful good things

I remain your affectionate
Father
JOHN KENRICK

MRS. A. KENRICK TO HER HUSBAND [1793?]

My Dear Archibald

We arrived safe at Liverpool about six o'clock yesterday afternoon after a tolerably pleasant but very fatiguing journey Our Beaux were very civil to us, but did not *frank* us as you said they would however they enlivened us very much by their agreable sallys, and we should have been very dull without them. Mr Eddowes has got a very convenient place for us but not at Highlake upon further enquiry he found the House was very expensive not less than 2 guineas a week they have everything quite in stile and the company consists of genteel parties that come to spend a few days or a week and are careless of expence it is ten miles from L— which would not have suited us at all. Mr E. heard of a House by chance between 3 and 4 miles off that will exactly suit our purpose the house is full except one lodging room which he has taken for us at 3/6 a week the company dine together and breakfast and sup in private dinner 1/6 supper 1/- breakfast 6d and bathing for which they have a machine 1/- each time. he says it is a pleasant place with a pretty garden and bowling green about it. it gives us exactly the same idea we had of Highlake but pleasanter.— Mr E.— goes to Ruabon on tuesday and returns on thursday. he hopes he shall meet you there and bring you back with him. your Brother and sister John are gone there for a week and Timothy is expected—your sister Eddowes is not in very good health and talks of spending a few days with us which I think will do her a great deal of good. They have got a charming house here as good as that they left at Chester but no garden to it— Mr. E. wishes you would try to get him an Unitarian Catechism entitled Practical Instructions for the use of young Persons. printed in 92—James gave him the one he has got and he has not been able to get any more. if you could meet with any Mr E.—— wishes you would put two or three in your pocket. they were given away by the Unitarian society. we shall expect to see you next week in the

meantime I remain with kind remembrance to all who may take the trouble of enquiring after me

Yours truely affectionate

R. KENRICK

Liverpool. Sunday. --

Timothy Kenrick and Mary Waymouth had five children who survived and one who died an infant. The eldest, Lucy, was born in 1786, John in 1788, Samuel in 1790, Mary in 1791, and George in 1792. Mrs. Kenrick was always delicate and she died after the birth of George. The family was put into deep mourning and Lucy always remembered the baby with a black bow on his little cap! Timothy's youngest sister, Martha, came to take charge of his household and his motherless children. In after years John Kenrick spoke warmly of her kindness to them all.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Dear Father. Exeter, Mar. 6^{t} 1793

I am indebted to you for two Letters w^{ch} I have not yet acknowledged. I have been ȳ^{e} less punctual in writing because I thought you would hear from my Sister. she has been of ȳ^{e} greatest use to me in taking care of ȳ^{e} children & in managing ȳ^{e} affairs of ȳ^{e} Family. We have had a good deal of trouble in parting with old servants & in procuring new ones. ȳ^{e} method my sister took of exposing one of them whom we discovered to have robbed me; altho' it was no more than what was just & proper increased ȳ^{e} difficulty of procuring another. we have at length hired two: one of whom is already come to us & promises to answer our wishes. ȳ^{e} other is not to come till we have weaned ȳ^{e} infant & discharged ȳ^{e} nurse, four of ȳ^{e} children have had eruptions on their heads. ȳ^{e} two youngest to a pretty violent degree. they are however mending of this complaint to-day we imagined that Sam^{l} & George discovered symptoms of ȳ^{e} Measles. we are not sure however it is this disorder, altho' we think it probable from its having been lately in our neighbourhood. My sister has had a cough for some time past, with a violent Toothache or

rather pain in one side of her gums & face. from this accownt you see that we have been most of us invalids. these things produce trouble & enxiety, but I have no doubt they answer some useful purpose in ye plan of infinite wisdom.

A Mr. Lloyd, a native of ye principality, but who has resided some years in England as a Dissenting Minister is coming to open a school in Exeter. I shall be happy to have an opportunity of putting John under his care he has been obliged to quit his last place of residence on accownt of ye political prejudices of ye people who withdrew their children from his School as soon as they discovered that he was a friend of ye French Revolution & was a heretic in Politics. this is at present ye worst kind of heresy of wch a Man can be guilty.

I saw your name in a list of Associators published in ye Star I am glad to find that it was added to so disgraceful a declaration without any authority from you—& that ye Dissenters had spirit enough to frame a separate declaration for themselves, from ye discordant principles of ye persons whose names appeared I should almost suspect that ye committee had been formed with ye express view of defeating ye professed object of ye Association. for in ye list I saw ye names of some who were reputed to be republicans. We have had meetings of all ye Parishes in Exeter in order to declare their Loyalty & attachment to ye constitution. most of our people have joined with ye establishment upon these occasions, & have hereby been induced to set their signatures to things wch I fear they did not in their Hearts approve. I have kept myself clear of all declarations & altho' I may have rendered myself obnoxious hereby, yet I have ye satisfaction of enjoying ye peace of my own mind.

A Mr. Winterbottom a Baptist Minister of this Cownty is under prosecution for two seditious sermons preached in ye month of Nov last. they have demanded ye Bail of twelve hundred pounds for his appearance. he has traversed to ye indictment, &

wishes to defer ȳ trial till ȳ minds of people are a little more cooled, in ȳ present fervour he stands no chance of escaping.

By ȳ last account from Mr. Jn° Waymouth he was at Florence in Italy upon his return to England. he had not then heard of ȳ French declaration of War. what alteration this may make in his plan I know not. he will not find it easy to return without coming thro' ȳ seat of War.

The children whom we supposed had ȳ measles have only bad colds—Sam[l] is this afternoon much better, ȳ infant has still a bad cough—I am very glad to find that Brother Jn° is so much better & that he has discovered his disorder to be ȳ Gout it is a disorder to w[ch] of all others I should have supposed him least liable to. I hope ȳ exercise he takes will keep it down.

I have to thank you for a cheese which arrived about a week ago in good condition.

The accownts I hear of Mrs. Buttall are very melancholy, ȳ influx of Riches with a weak state of health has overset her mind.

Patty joins me in duty to you & Mother & love to other friends I remain Dear Father

yours affc[y]

T. Kenrick.

CHAPTER VI

THE EMIGRANTS

RALPH EDDOWES was always a champion of liberty and he took up the cause of the citizens of Chester against the Corporation. By a charter of Henry VII they were entitled to elect a mayor, aldermen and councilmen, but the Corporation so elected had passed a bye-law that the vacancies occurring in the common council should be filled up by the mayor, aldermen and councilmen. The citizens did not acquiesce tamely in this and the case was brought up in several reigns. Ralph Eddowes took it to the House of Lords and obtained the establishment of the Charter. But the Corporation pleaded that the Charter had never been accepted and so won the case. By an oversight in the matter of moving for costs, Mr. Eddowes was compelled to bear the heavy expense of the appeal.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Chester 16 June 1793

Dear Brother

Since I wrote to you last it has pleased the all-wise Disposer of events to draw a very dark cloud over my affairs—I think I mention'd to you the alarm I was in on acct. of the person at Liverpool with whom I had formed a connexion in trade which I had reazon to hope would have proved beneficial & have enabled me to decline the Tobacco-trade in favour of Mr. Moulson's family—My fears have since then been realized & I find myself, thro' his villainous conduct, called upon for the payment of several thousand pounds, for return'd bills which he had drawn & indorsed in my name & his own without the least knowledge of the transaction on my part—I have, it is true, some effects in my possession, which when disposed of will produce something towards my loss, which I fear, on the winding up of the accounts will prove considerable, as much perhaps as from 1500 to 2000£. Having engaged a house at Liverpool & disposed of own & finding my presence there indispensibly necessary I have had part of my family there for some weeks past—in the course of this week the rest will follow & I must attend the business here as well as I am able by coming over once

or twice a week, since this concern, small as the profits for this year will be, is all I have to look to for present support—Thus you will perceive that wth regard to a removal from hence I had nothing before me but a choice of difficulties, & reasons for wishing to give up my connexion here subsisting in their full strength & the distant prospect presenting itself of a more easy removal to America if it should become needful I adopted the plan of an abode at Liverpool I desire to be sincerely thankful that amidst the distress arising from these unhappy events I have been hitherto continued in the uninterrupted enjoyment of health & I hope I may add that the consolations of Religion have not a little contributed to the tranquillizing of my mind under these afflictive dispensations—But alas! I must prepare for still farther trials—this day brings me intelligence that the question of Costs in the Corporation cause has been finally determined against me, so that tho' I am not to pay anything to the other side yet I shall have my Attorney (Snow's) bill to pay which the Costs ought to have done—this is as directly against the letter of the law as it is against reason & equity but in such a question, in such a Country, in such times, & with the principles I am known to profess is Justice to be looked for? One chance for comfort alone remains & that is as speedy a removal to America as circumstances will permit—there alone I can hope to imploy to advantage & enjoy in peace, with my dear family, the remains of my fortune & if you continue in the disposition you were in when you wrote to me last I wish to see you as soon as possible that we may concert measures for our departure which I hope may be with the earliest of the Spring Ships of next year—All my endeavours & pursuits will henceforth be directed towards this end & to put my affairs in order & I hope, with the advantages which a frequent intercourse with citizens of America which Liverpool affords we may be able to arrange matters so in that Country against our arrival as to be able to leave this with hope & chearfulness.

I find you intended us a visit this summer but I hope you will be able to come *soon* & I wish you to call on Archibald in your way to learn how he stands affected *now* on the subject of Emigration—I am told that matters at Birming^{m} wear a most discouraging aspect & considering the impoverished state of the Continent it seems as if even peace would at present do little towards a revival of trade—the number of emigrants from Liverpool in every Vessel is immense—let us cast in our lot among them & leave this detestable country which its present corruption & vices of every kind have marked out for the object of the divine judgments—I say so without fear of being charged with uncharitableness for it is an unalterable law of the divine Government that vice should produce misery & final ruin.

God be praised for all the mercies he vouchsafes to continue to us among which the health of ourselves & little ones is the most valuable—hoping to hear from you soon I remain

Y^{rs} very sincerely

Ra Eddowes.

You may direct to me here. I scarcely need say that the subject of this letter should not be made public.

JOHN KENRICK TO ARCHIBALD

Ruabon Nov. 18th 1793

Dear Son

I shou'd have wrote to you sooner but my son John told me you were in London. I suppose you are return'd before this. We don't well know where to direct our letters to you, as Timothy informed us you designed removing to West Birming^{m}. desire you'l let us know when you remove as your Mother designs sending you a cheese. your Mother and I have been at Liverpool soon after your wife left it. I stay'd a few days, left your Mother there a fortnight she found great benefit from the journey and

sea air which made her quite well. Ellis our old servt lent me a 100£ to pay Bavies I also paid him a year's Interest 5£ due Dec. 18th son John says that you had that 100£ of Mr Buttall and that he is accountable for the 100£ that I borrowed of Brother William. I shou'd be glad you'd settle it with him and let me know. Brother Samuel wants me to joyn in a bond for his money. Ellis has only my unstampt note for his 100£ I promised him that you would joyn in a bond for it. Bro. Samuel is great Hurry Collecting Brother William's money he sent a Loyers letter to Mr Benjamin which gave great offence but it Produced the money which ansrd the end it was sent for.

We have been very busy sowing wheat in the Oates Stubble Behind the Barn, did not finish till last week we gave it 2 Ploughings and mixed the Potatoe ground all round with lime and carried it upon the land which cost us great deal of labour and Expence but as it proved a Dry season it was sowed in better condition than if we had sowed sooner. the corn markets are High, wheat goes to s8/ Barley above s6/ and oates s3/4d Pease 6/8 but cattle and horses are very low in Price owing to the shortness of Fodder, hay sells at s5/per ct. at Present what it will take before May is uncertain. We have not hear of my Daugr Kenricks return from Lond— your sister is at Wt Church they have sent Samuel here he's a very fine sharp boy diverts us much. We shall be glad to know what trade does in your way am afraid it is but dul our money goes to Pay our troops and foreigners on the Continent, to Establish monarchy and Tirany with Popish Superstion. You Birminghamites are still ready for these old custome mobbing if they are not keept under by the miletary how will they like the new taxes when Mr. Pitt oppens the Buddeget. we keept Sr. Watkins Bearday at Wynn Stay very socialy there was only a few Gentelman of the Parish that ware invited with theyr tenants, we were about 200 that dinned the big Room every one did as he liked and went home when they Pleased, they talk of his coming into the Country to be eleced

Member of Parlement very soon. We shall be glad to hear how your wife is since she come home, hope the Liverpool journey [will] establish her health Your Mother joyns in best wishes for Both your Health and happiness and comp^{t} to all friends, especially Hay Hall, I remain your

Affectionate father

JOHN KENRICK

P.S. You will let us hear what Newes from Lond^{n} we hear Cos. Sarah is brt. to bed of twins.

In 1794 Timothy Kenrick married Elizabeth Belsham, sister of the Revd. Thomas Belsham, minister of the Essex Street Chapel, London. Miss Belsham had been used to London society and her step-daughter Lucy marvelled at her striped satin shoes and embroidered muslin petticoats.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Liverpool. 31st. May. 1794

Dear Bro.

The voice of my congratulation but ill accords with the gloomy aspect of the times, yet I think I may without impropriety felicitate you on a connection which whether your interests continue in this country or remove to another, cannot but afford to you and yours prospects, in a domestic view at least,—the most pleasing and agreeable.

I took you sister to Ruabon this week, where she is paying probably her last visit—this she knows, tho' they do not. Her fortitude is great, but I tremble for the effect this parting may have on her spirits. Under circumstances so painful what can support the mind but the hope which the Christian Religion presents to us? To this only with respect to your father and mother we can have recourse, but I cannot help indulging the pleasing idea that the rest of us may yet meet in the bonds of love and friendship in some happier region of this lower world.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Exeter, Aug^{t} 13. 1794

Dear Father

I am obliged to you for $\overset{e}{y}$ Congratulations w^{ch} your last letter contained upon a late happy event. providence has been kind both to me & my children in permitting us to repair $\overset{e}{y}$ loss we had sustained. I hope we shall not forget how precarious $\overset{e}{y}$ most important of God's blessings are in this World.

I am sorry on your accownt to hear of $\overset{e}{y}$ sale of estates to w^{ch} you were attached by long possession & w^{ch} you considered as Family property, but at $\overset{e}{y}$ same time I see $\overset{e}{y}$ propriety of his yielding up everything to his creditors, whose demands ought, as far as possible to be satisfied. if my Brother has suffered more than others in similar circumstances he has $\overset{e}{y}$ consolation of thinking that he has behaved better. I hope he will find a situation in America where he will be able to bring up his numerous family without difficulty: but I do not despair of seeing him do well here if nothing acceptable should offer itself on $\overset{e}{y}$ other side of $\overset{e}{y}$ water. I understand from my Sister that he has bought $\overset{e}{y}$ reversion of $\overset{e}{y}$ Ruabon estate, which looks as if he had abandoned $\overset{e}{y}$ idea of emigration.

I take it for granted tho' I have not been informed of it from any of you, that Mr. & Mrs. Eddowes & other friends have sailed. it is an adventurous undertaking for them with so large a Family & will probably be attended with much trouble. but I hope it will end well. we have had several emigrations from this town & neighbourhood & others talk of following their example, it is easy to perceive that unless $\overset{e}{y}$ situation of affairs in this country takes a favourable turn soon it will lose great numbers of its inhabitants. $\overset{e}{y}$ prospects in America are so inviting in themselves that a few inconveniences in this country will drive away $\overset{e}{y}$ sufferers. Mr. Russell of Birmingham with his son & two daughters passed through this place about a fortnight ago for

Falmouth in order to embark there for America. he had taken a whole ship for himself & by ordering her to meet him at Falmouth he avoided ye inconvenience of a tedious passage down ye English Channel. from him I learnt that Dr. & Mrs. Priestley were quite delighted with ye reception they met with at New York. ye attention paid to them was great to excess & even to weariness. every family of any consideration in ye place had been or was coming to visit them. what was particularly pleasing to observe was that all parties united in these testimonies of regard.

The vacancy among ye Ministers of ye United Congregations, occasioned by ye death of Mr. Tozer has been filled up, by choice of Mr. Bretland, who served another Society in Exeter for many years, & is well known to be an Unitarian. this choice does credit to ye judgement of our people, but at ye same time it has displeased not a little ye orthodox or calvanistic friends wch remain among us. about ninety-four persons out of one hundred & thirty subscribed ye invitation. he declines entering upon his office till Michaelmas.

You may tell sister Martha that her late charge are all well Mary talks frequently about aunt & sais she will come to see her. little George has begun to talk & is becoming very entertaining. Mr. Lloyd's school is increased to more than twenty, of whom three only are boarders, but one of them is ye son of Mr. Clarke of Bridwell.

Mr. Belsham spent last week with us, he is now at Plymouth & returns to spend a few days longer with us to-morrow.

The aspect of affairs upon ye Continent has undergone a great change within a few weeks & many persons who were once warm advocates for the War begin to speak against it. but no measures are adopted to collect ye sense of ye people upon ye subject & I suppose ministry will be allowed to pursue it a good while longer.

Last week a good deal of rain fell here & considerable apprehensions were entertained for ye safety of ye corn, wch was cut

& standing upon ȳe ground. but ȳe latter part of ȳe last week & ȳe whole of this hitherto have been extremely favourable to ȳe farmers & much corn has been secured. in a ride of ten miles wch I took yesterday I saw no wheat in ȳe field, but some oats & all ȳe Barley: most of ȳe latter uncut.

My wife unites with me in desiring to be kindly remembered to you, my mother & sisters. I remain Dear Father

yr affte son

T. Kenrick

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO SAMUEL KENRICK OF BEWDLEY

Exeter August 19th. 1794

Dear Uncle

I am indebted to you for two Letters ȳe first of which contained a draft for two Guineas and remitted to me your subscription for ȳe years ninety-three & ninety four, to our Western Unitarian Society, together with Mr. Bennetts subscription and admission fee. I should have acknowledged ȳe favor of this Letter immediately, had you not informed me that indorsing ȳe note would be equivalent to a receipt, & had I not likewise waited to inform you that Mr. Bennett was admitted a member of our Society wch. I was prevented from doing till our next quarterly meeting, in consequence of not receiving your Letter till ȳe afternoon of ȳe day of our annual meeting. I have no doubt of Mr. Bennett's having a cordial welcome into our Society & have therefore printed his name with ȳe list of members, & desired Mr. Johnson of London to send to you & him a collection of ȳe Books appointed for this year's distribution, in ȳe parcel will be inclosed several copies of our Rules &c. wch. you may have an opportunity of shewing to your acquaintance who may

perhaps be induced to send us their names likewise. if Mr. Johnson were exact in fulfilling ye orders I gave him, wch. I am sorry to say is not ye case, ye Books must have reached Bewdley by this time.

We met with some opposition at our annual Meeting. it is usual to have a public service on that day, & I had desired Mr. Toulmin who had officiated for me ye preceding Sunday to give notice that a sermon would be preached before ye Unitarian Society at their annual Meeting. this notice alarmed ye apprehensions & awakened ye animosity of one Gentleman, who has distinguished himself, altho' a dissenter, by his zeal in supporting all ye vile measures of a vile court, & by his antipathy to every species of innovation. he assembled ye Trustees of ye Meeting house, represented to them ye dangerous consequences of holding such meetings & persuaded them to refuse us ye use of ye place. this unexpected opposition produced an instance of liberality wch. I did not look for—an unsolicited offer of ye other Meeting house, by ye Trustees & other members. what made this offer ye more agreeable is, that it came from a Society wch. is reputed calvanistic. We have ye pleasure also to know that ye conduct of ye first mentioned Trustees is generally condemned by ye other members of ye Society for whom they act, so that our cause has suffered no injury upon ye whole, by this little effort of political or religious bigotry. it has rather I believe been of service by exciting attention & inquiry. several new Members were added to our list upon this occasion. ye sermon wch. was preached by Mr. Reynell & wch. was a very excellent one has been printed & to it is prefixed ye correspondence wch. took place between Counsr. White & Mr. Toulmin on ye subject of ye Meeting House.

The situation of my two Brothers has occasioned me a considerable loss, but I regret it more on their account than my own my loss is not to be compared to theirs. my Father also is a sufferer, but what will principally affect him is to see ye provision wch. he must have conveyed in ye course of nature to my Brother

John, for ever alienated. this is indeed a hard case, but it is perhaps no more than what we ourselves should justify were we placed in ȳ same circumstances with other persons.

The removal of Mr. Eddowes to America is a public as well as a private loss; but if ȳ state of things in this country should grow worse or not mend, I think we may have occasion to rejoice in ȳ event, as ȳ means of providing an asylum for ȳ rest of ȳ family; for in that case, then only can we expect a safe retreat.

Y^e^ accounts received from Dr. Priestley are highly pleasing. nothing could exceed ȳ attention paid to him at New York. of his reception in other parts of America no account has yet arrived but there is reason to suppose that it will be equally flattering. I have this moment heard from a Gentleman of this place whose son has emigrated to America that a number of Unitarians both of New York & Philadelphia have invited him to be their pastor & offered to build him a chapel but I do not learn whether he was inclined to accept of either proposal.

The Vacancy occasioned by ȳ death of our Colleague Mr. Tozer has been filled up by ȳ choice of Mr. Bretland, a person of very considerable talents & learning & an avowed Unitarian. some of our orthodox friends are disatisfied with this choice & talk of a separation. but whether they will have spirit enough to build a new place & support a separate minister I think doubtful.

I delivered your compts. to Mr. Toulmin, who happened to be at my house at ȳ time I was favoured with your letter. notwithstanding ȳ excellence of his character & ȳ inoffensiveness of his manners ȳ political animosity of his Townsmen has rendered his situation uncomfortable—I beg to be kindly remembered to my aunt & cousin. your new relation sends her respctfl. compts. to you all. please to present mine to Mr. Wigan.

Your affte. nephew T. Kenrick.

SAMUEL KENRICK OF BEWDLEY TO TIMOTHY

Bewdley 10th. Decr. 1794.

Dear Nephew

I have also two of your kind & entertaining letters to acknowledge. For you make the same concession to me in yours of the 19th. Aug. wch. is some consolation for not answering it as I ought to have done sooner.

I had not then received the 2nd. collection of Unitarian Books from Mr. Johnson—but they are since come both to Mr. Bennett & me & give us the greatest satisfaction. The new pieces are extracts from Hanway, Seddon's Sermons & Porter's Defence of Unitarianism—wch. we like much. The last is highly complimented by the Critical Reviewers—& at the expence of his revd. antagonist wch. must be not a little mortifying to a zealous son of the establishment. But entre nous, is there any truth in a most unfavourable report wch. has reached us, respecting the apostacy of Mr. Porter & of several other young unitarians of promising talents? namely into the bold tract of Godwin. I never presumed to blame any man's opinion be it ever so absurd, while it continued innoxious, & was not imposed wth. penalties on others. Neither do I call in question the right of these bold modern speculatists to publish & maintain what they think to be truth; I only lament from my heart that such splendid talents should be taken from a situation of usefulness, and that the world should be deprived of their example & instruction in these our degenerate days. But after all I hope there is no truth in it & happy should I be if you wd. confirm to me this hope.

Mr. Bennett is much obliged to you for having his name enrolled in your respectable Society. He greatly approves your plan, adopts most cordialy your sentiments, & will do all in his power to promote your generous undertaking. You would be pleased to see with what hearty zeal he enters into the subject, wch. he had always looked upon before as a sacred inexplicable

mystery wch. he was even afraid of prying into. He now boldly attacks his quandam ghostly Teacher & after having made a democrate of him in politics, he is in the fair way of making him an unitarian in religion & even staggers his faith, in what comes nearer home to him, his right to tythes having clearly demonstrated its impolicy & most oppressive nature.

No good thing it seems can be acquired without struggle & exertion! That you should meet wth. such unchristian & illiberal opposition from a person of character & education & of your own Society at this time of day astonishes me. It is however right & promotive of the end you had in view—you clearly see by the event. I should be glad to see Mr. Reynell's Sermon on the occasion & the subsequent correspondence between Mr. W. & our worthy friend Mr. Toulmin.

What a melancholy circumstance that a person of his worth and abilities should meet wth. such barbarous treatment at Taunton, where he is so well known! I thought that blind ignorance & furious bigotry was confined to the hardly human manufactures at Birmingham & that the more civilised town of Taunton wch. flourished in civilization & opulence, when the name of the former was scarcely known—was far above such a reproach.

The misfortunes of your brothers in common wth. many more in these disastrous times have given us much concern—but they are still young, well informed & industrious & I make no doubt, under kind providence they will soon rise again to greater prosperity to your mutual joy & comfort. We have been long impatiently expecting to hear of Mr. Eddowes' & Co. safe arrival. By a lr. from Cousin James yesterday there are no certain accounts yet.

Mr. Wm. Russell's fate is very extraordinary. He wrote an account of his having been taken the 26th. Aug. when his son was ill of a fever, & he & his company to the number of 7 or

8 were confined in a close apartment soon after they left Falmouth—Nor has the least intelligence been received of him or for him since.—Although Mr. Rukney has written 6 letters to his Brother American Resident at Paris—& there is advice in the newspapers of the safe arrival of the ship, in wch. he sailed at Boston the 15th. Octr. mentioning at the same time that Mr. Russell & family &c. were taken out wth. all their property & put on board the frenchman. They were deemed English men & property—while the ship freighted by him was deemed, wth. her Captain & crew to be American & continued her voyage.

The painful suspence attending this misfortune, must be felt, you will easily feel, to a degree beyond expression. The Revd. Mr Huddy who succeeded Mr. Wells at Bromsgrove wth. his wife & Miss Nicholls of Kiddr. were in Mr. R's suite.

We are happy to hear you have so agreeable a colleague in Mr. Bretland. I have only time to thank you for your favor. of the 2nd. inst. Mr. Kentish pamphlet I should like to see. I much comend your seasonable interpretation on this occasion wch. I make no doubt will be crowned with success. Mr. Wigan (wth. his best respects to you) is all impatience for the perusal of your learned & spirited Brother-in-law's 4 vols. wch. were to be published yesterday—& wch. we have already by the most speedy conveyance.

I have all Mr. Belsham's former most excellent publications. —Nil admirari—you will say when I tell you that our worthy friend Wigan is just going to London to attend lectures on Anatomy, Chemistry & Medicine for 3 mths. His reason is that his eyes fail him—& therefore he must have resource to his ears for information & improvement.

Adieu. We unite in our affectionate regards to Mrs. Kenrick yourself & little ones.

Ever yours. S.K.

John Kenrick accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Eddowes, their nine children and a maid to America. They set out on August 1st, in the "Hope" from Liverpool, it was the last vessel to go out that day, nearly missing the tide. The next day there was a violent thunderstorm and a north-west gale which continued for several days. They reached Hoylake on August 4th, after which the weather was better. On the 8th they passed Holyhead, the wind north-east and the sea running high. The following extract from his journal of the voyage shows that they were well cared for on board:

"At dinner we were all obliged to sit on the floor, and when attempting to help anyone the chair and plates would slide to the opposite side of the cabin and sometimes upset the soup which we had every day for dinner; it was very good, made of cabbage, rice, carrots etc., also from fowl; indeed we had a remarkably good cook; he made soup very palatable, indeed, if anything I think we live too well. I wish we were not so extravagant; 2 or 3 dishes of meat for dinner; eggs, tea and coffee and sometimes ham and cold tongue for breakfast at 8; dinner at 1 or 2 at furthest. Our liquor is Porter or Cider with our meat; the children drink imperial; sometimes we have a bottle of wine after dinner and something after supper but we are very moderate and regular in living, all being in bed and asleep by 10 or half after."

When they got into the Atlantic it was fairly calm and they caught a blue shark, which interested Mr. Kenrick greatly; he was also interested in some of the other passengers in the ship.

"Among the steerage passengers was a ci-devant French nobleman, a friend of La Fayette; he professed himself a democrat for the first constitution, says the Queen of France was a bad woman but the King to be pitied. He amused himself and the passengers; he played on the clarionet and two others on the violin so that we had an agreeable concert. The sound on a calm evening had a wonderful effect, and had I known that my wife and children were well at the time it would have been pleasant enough, but the uncertainty of their welfare, and what they suffer on my account is a damper on all, and the thoughts of the conduct of that Judas, the grocer who always said he recollected my conduct towards

him when he pressed so much for bills, which I refused him knowing they would not be paid, though there were effects enough, in the hands of the cheesemongers, to have paid him; . . . . . I will endeavour to forgive but forget I can't, and if what he has sworn to is true, it is more than I can believe, but he must answer for it not me, a man that will keep false balances and [be] sharp when he can would, I doubt not, do the same in other cases where opportunity offers. We had, I observed before, a Frenchman Aide de champ to Lafayette, when the great are stupid how helpless do they appear, of what little use their empty titles. Two days in the week the steerage passengers are allowed flour which they use as they please, most of them get some sort of bag, if it is their nightcaps or pocket handkerchiefs, they will make some shift or other, but this ci-devant noble could not tell what to do. I advised him to borrow a bag, as he was not used to such work, I borrowed him one, but his pride would not let him descend so low as to provide for himself, but necessity late in the day told him that pride would not fill an empty stomach, so at last hunger prevailed on him to enquire whether there was not any cold meat. He was told there was, but if he wished it he must cook it himself. Well he spoiled the meat so that the dog would not eat it, and after an hour and a half cooking, the pigs had it, the other steerage passengers were willing to help themselves. It shows the folly and vanity of titles compared with industry, and how the world is led away with what in themselves are of no real value, and how false are the notions of the multitude; let us only appreciate things as they merit and not as the world judges of them."

On August 22nd they were stopped by another ship which they were afraid was French but which turned out to be English. Her captain asked if they had any flour to spare but the captain of the "Hope" felt he was not justified in giving any away with so many passengers on board. He did, however, give a cask of bread in exchange for beans. The passengers took the opportunity of writing home by this ship.

"But so short was the time allowed and so great was the confusion that it was not possible to recollect anything one had to say.

The carpenter on board wanted a sailor to write a letter to his wife, the sailor asked him what he must say; he told him anything that he would say himself. The sailor still pressed him what he must say, he said, 'My dear Nancy, my dear Nancy,' that will do, and I am apt to think that most of our letters to our friends on shore would appear like the Carpenter's. It is difficult to sit down and write any length of time for the motion of the vessel makes one sick and it is impossible to write straight or correctly."

By September 7th, owing to the latitude the weather was found very warm, and on September 9th they were becalmed for two days.

"*Sept.* 11, *Thursday* at 2 a.m. there sprung up a fresh breeze from the N.E. which I hope will continue for some days, at least till we get on the banks of Newfoundland which we have been long expecting, indeed the accounts we have had of the distance we are from the Banks are various; some days I have been told I shall see it in a day or two, the next that I am 500 miles off it, and perhaps the next 200."

At 1.0 a.m. on September 14th there was another violent storm which washed a large cask of fresh water overboard, a serious matter; it also took their three pigs. On the 19th they had a hurricane from the west which drove them back somewhat, and there was another storm on the 23rd. On September 24th they were off the banks of Newfoundland and about 200 miles from land. A hawk alighted on the mast and they caught it, and the next day they saw a swallow. After that there is no entry till October 9th, when they found that they were out of their reckoning.

"*October 9th. Thursday.* Spoke with Two Brothers from New York for Hamburg out 9 days only from sight of land, she told us we were in longitude 63, which was a great disappointment to us, for we all settled it that we were to be in New York on Sunday. The Captain promised we should, agreeable to his reckoning we were in 67 or 68 disappointment was visible in all countenances. I was sorry to hear those whose language ought to be very different say that instead of going to church to return God thanks for safe protection during so long a voyage, he would go first and

order a good dinner at an inn, before he would go to any place of worship; many were shocked at his manner and expression for his whole conversation seemed to be what he should eat and what he should drink. But it pleased 'He Who ordereth all things' to disappoint us all. He sent forth a strong S.E. wind which increased to a most violent storm, that I believe there was not a person on board that did not expect it would be the last night; it rained with such violence that I never before saw the like, and the sky was one continuous blaze of lightning, the sea foaming with white higher than the yards, the sailors thought we could not survive it, the Captain had lashed 2 axes by him to cut away the main mast, but did not, we split our foresail and carried away our main topsail, but we had reason to be thankful that we escaped so well. Next day we saw the Queen Charlotte of Bristol which had lost her main top mast, and her forestay sail and mizzen stay so that instead of dining at New York or Philadelphia, we found ourselves much further off than that day week and uncertain whether we should not be obliged in a short time to go without a dinner.

"The Captain had thoughts of running for the Bermudas as the wind was fair, but this he is determined, to make the first land he can for fear of being short of provisions with so many on board, he is tender though warm in his temper. We met on Sunday, October 12, an American schooner from Cape Cod to Martinique. We got some fowls at 3/- a couple and some potatoes and wood and 4 cod fish they gave us. We bought a barrel of apples which were a great treat and very fine fruit; we gave for them 2 dollars a bushel.

"*Tuesday October* 14. On examining our stock of water to our great misfortune we found that in the late gale, one of our butts of water had shifted its bung downwards and spilt most of the water, and that two others had thrown their hoops and lost most of the water so we had lost 248 gallons; we were all put on allowance, as we had not more than would last 3 weeks. Our butter was run

very low, and it was proposed by the Captain that the women and children only should have butter with their biscuits, which was readily agreed to, excepting by two who said they would have it, if they chose as long as there was any.

"*Wednesday 15th. October.* We have now been out 10 weeks from Hoylake and what little reason for complaint have we when I state our bill of fare this day, 1st. soup, next fish fresh and salt, a couple of fowls, a piece of nice beef, a piece of pork and potatoes, and an apple pie with our neat porter after it wine and fruit. If this is not living sumptuously I do not know what is after being out near 11 weeks.

"*October* 23. We this day were all put on 4 lbs. of bread a week each, my sister and brother and children and self are in the mess, the allowance to each in proportion, are 2 biscuits and a half for each grown person, the 9 children are allowed as for 4 persons. It is now become a matter of the utmost importance, and what everyone on board wishes for and having fixed it for one week and another their disappointment seems to drive them almost to despair, indeed they all seem to be near giving themselves up to it; our provisions and water nearly exhausted, butter, sugar, coffee, rice are nearly exhausted;

"*Sunday October* 19. Finding our water and provisions getting low and a strong westerly wind blowing right against us, so that it was impossible to get to Philadelphia, we steered as close as we could to the wind, with an intention of making the first Port we could."

On the evening of October 19th they overtook another vessel and both vessels decided to try for Rhode Island. They conjectured that they were fifty or sixty miles from Rhode Island and about fifteen miles from Long Island, but could not make the latter owing to contrary winds.

"*October* 23. We have been for the last 12 hours making for New London and had just fixed what we should want and how to dispose of ourselves, some promising themselves one thing, some another, we found soundings at 22 Fathoms water, and we all expected next morning to have landed as the land was seen from

the Masthead the E. end of Long Island, but He Who ordereth all things and Who rideth on the winds settled it otherwise, and at 10 p.m. the wind shifted and came against us, so that we had to go all the way back again. In such a state of uncertainty, with such scenes of distraction around us, there is nothing that can compose the mind but that faith which Christianity inspires. The Christian alone can view with composure the great Governor of the world riding in the whirlwind, directing the storm and working all things after the counsel of His own will.

"Sunday evening, about 9 o'clock we had got near the Cape and expected a Pilot boat, and as we found by our sounding that we were in 14 Fathoms water and afterwards in 9 I determined to stay up and keep a good look. It was the Captain's wish that I should, for when I talked of going down, he said, You won't dine. About 10 the wind increased but to our great joy a Pilot boat came up, but the wind being fresh desired we would keep her head up and they would put a Pilot on board as soon as it was daylight, but to our great mortification the wind increased, and we were obliged to bear away for fear of going on shore; the storm increased and blew very hard for 24 hours. It is very well to be employed as it affords variety to the tedious occurrence of the same nautical observations and the wearisome succession of calms and gales. I find by experience that being on allowance, fat pork agrees with me very well. It is unnecessary to add with what transport I received the intelligence, with what anxious hopes and fears, what a conflict between curiosity and apprehension my mind was agitated as we got towards the spot we expected to hear from our friends."

JOHN KENRICK TO HIS BROTHER TIMOTHY

Dear Bro^{r}. New York Friday 16th Nov. 1794

I tho^{t} to have waited longer before I wrote that I might be able to give you some particulars respect^{g} this Country but an

opportunity offering to Birmingham I co^{d} not let slip so favourable a conveyance—we thank God we arriv'd safe at Philadelphia all well after passage of 3 Months & one Day. Mr. Eddowes being superCargo had a good deal of Business to do & wishing that I sho^{d} take the first opportunity of seeing the Country & the different Estates that were upon Sale I accompanied Mr. & Mrs. Davey & their Bro^{r} Ja^{s} the former in a Single Horse Chaise the later & myself on Horseback the weather was when we set out delightful we saw several Estates near German Town amongst them a beautiful one of D^{r} Logan similiar to those in the neighbourhood of London & some of the Lands in a tolerable state of cultivation but not from what they have done towards improving them excepting cutting down the woods w^{ch} to me has a very slovenley appearance for they cut them above the surface about 2 feet & there they leave the old Stumps w^{ch} must make it very troublesome to cultivate the land they as soon as the land is clear'd plow it & sow it with Wheat & then plant it with Indian Corn & then sow it again with Wheat or Rye & so plow & sow it as long as it will produce anything without giving it any Manure indeed they seldom make use of the Dung w^{ch} is left round the Building till it destroys the foundation of the Building & the Dung is turned into Soil they have such plenty of land that they can take fresh when that is exhausted—they let the land when they have exhausted it be overun with weeds & Briers w^{ch} has a very unpleasant appearance to the eye the American Farmers plea is that labor is so High that they cannot afford to pay for doing those things w^{ch} we use in England to consider as esential but w^{ch} the Americans tho^{t} not of any service they say the weeds do no harm—therefore never attempt to destroy them.

the land in general that I have seen is a light soil a mixture of Clay & sand & some gravelly I have seen a good deal of a Red cast very much resembling the Cheshire slate Marl but I find upon a close examination that it is not so rich tho the top of it yields fine wild Clover indeed Clover both red & White honey-

suckle grow natural to all the Soils I have yet seen they always use their Horses double & I never yet have seen more than one Man to a team they always plow with 2 Horses abreast & the Rains go thro a ring fix'd to the plow handle indeed the Dutch plows have but one handle they seem very well calculated for the purposes to w^{ch} they are applied it is usual for a Man & 2 Horses to plow 2 Acres a Day indeed they never plow any debth only skin the surface & weather they are right or not wo^{d} be judging to Hastily for me yet to determine—I heard a Deal of an English farmer at Fleming Town who had done wonders w^{ch} determined us to go & visit him we went there to breakfast he came out of the neighbourhood of Leister his name was Cappenhurst a Single man his Mother an Elderly woman keeps his Ho^{s} she makes him a Dairy of Cheese w^{ch} is likewise noted but what I tasted was not of a good quality—they sell it altogether at Philadelphia for 16^{d} pr lb. they deliver it themselves tho it is 44 miles at very little expence for it is universally the custom for all the farmers to take their provision for themselves & Horses with them & go into a publick Ho^{s} & call for what licquor they chose w^{ch} is chiefly Whiskey or Brandey & water all made of Apples Malt licquor is very seldom to be met with & always very dear a Bottle of London Porter at Taverns is 2^{s} Currency they are doing all they can to raise Barley w^{ch} is always a ready sale to Brew their own Porter w^{ch} is not yet to be compared to the English—the Farmers run their Horses doubley always drive them with rains their waggons are very light their wheels like coach wheels & very narrow their loads of course are adapted to their carriages w^{ch} seldom exceed from 10cwt to 15 cwt—with these they will go 44 Miles in a day their Horses are all light & clean leg'd rather taller than the Carnarvanshire Horses but not so Hairy leged—they trot away or rather amble for they all seem to have that pace faster than the machines do in England weather it wo^{d} improve their breed if the Dishley kind was put to them I will not venture yet to say.

I shall not pay any attention to order as my time will not at present permit me I shall therefore mention things just as they occur to me—what seem'd to surprise the Americans was how the English Man provided food for his cattle he kept 22 milking Cows he did not rear or breed any himself but bo^{t} them up & down of his neighbours on an average at 5$^{£}$ a Head as he co^{d} pick them up (for they have no fairs for they say it promotes Idleness & Drinking) here I saw the first Hedges for fences of English Hawthorn & some native American thorns w^{ch} make good fences w^{ch} with a little attention wo^{d} be easily rais'd but they never attempt to raise any but were thankful to this Englishman for geting them up out of their grounds—He had paid great attention to watering his low grounds w^{ch} enabled him to raise a great quantity of Hay he had an old Uncle with him a violent Jacobin who had seen the watering at Dishley but he had not compleated his agreeable to theirs the reason he gave for it & for many other things w^{ch} I sujested to him was that he co^{d} not do it without Hands he says they are not to be had yet others say they are to be had in plenty but the Wages High w^{ch} I find true he had not done much at his other land yet it had a very different appearance to his neighbours lands—the Americans all have very large Orchards w^{ch} produce vast quantity of Apples of an excellent quality as much superior to the English Apples as apples are to Crabs both for size & flavour—their peaches were gone before I arriv'd—their apples were mostly got but what they co^{d} not procure vessells for w^{ch} seem'd to be many Busshells w^{ch} lay under the Trees for the Hogs—their Cranberrys are very plenty & as large again as English—lamb beef & mutton good 3^{d} Sterling pork excellent veal inferior & of a higher price than in England—Butter the same indeed every thing w^{ch} is the produce of the Cow is sold for a great price consequently that must answer but the cause is that the generality of the Farmers are set on raising Corn but they dont raise near such quantitys of Wheat w^{ch} they use to do owing to a Fly w^{ch} they say came over at the time of the

American war & was first seen in the Hesian Camp from w^{ch} it is call'd the Hessian Fly—it is a small Fly & resembles what we in England call a grasshopper—they say it lays its eggs in the Fall of the year in the Stalk of the plant w^{ch} in the spring feed on the Corn & destroys the Corn for several Hundred Acres—they say it does not attack the Rye so much as Wheat the Price now is Currencey 11^{s}.6^{d} p^{r} Bushell here w^{ch} is as dear as it is in England this Country is a very good one for poor or rather working men for tho there comes so many yet if there was 10 times as many they wo^{d} be engaged you never see a Man want^{g} work as soon as a Vessell comes they are all engaged.

a good workman a plaisterer gets ^{s}16/- a day or 2 Dollars Sterling w^{ch} is ^{s}8/6^{d} English Money I never saw but one Man a beging since I came & that was one w^{ch} had been left here wounded since the War by Geo: as to Politicks it wo^{d} not be prudent for New Settlers to meddle with them they say that the Troops are now engaged for 9 Mo: longer & it is supposed that they are intended agst some of G. settlements—they say you can have money put out at 2 or 2 & a Half p^{r} Cent p^{r} Month good security—The Town of New York is in my opinion far superior to that of Philedelphia the people I like much better they are not so reserv'd but they are gay—I have been in Company with the Bishop of Areton also a member of the first Convention—also a Hanoverian pursuing miniroligy agreeable men

I remain with love to Sister

Y^{r} affectionate Bro^{r}.

J. Kenrick.

when I have seen more I shall send it you I can asshure you that tho there is great difficulties in geting over yet the satisfaction I have experienced in being able to speak my mind & finding myself free is ample satisfaction for what one may experience.

In a different hand:

We have had the pleasure of perusing the above wth heart felt satisfaction & remain wth our united complements of the season & our affec^{te} reg^{ds}

y^{rs} S, E, & M.K

[Samuel, Elizabeth & Mary Kenrick.]

OBSERVATIONS ON Y^{E} BEST MEANS OF PREPARING FOR A VOYAGE TO AMERICA BY RALPH EDDOWES

When a sufficient number of persons can concur in ẏ^{e} business of emigration ẏ^{e} cheapest method will be to engage ẏ^{e} whole Cabin of a ship & to lay in their own stores. It is understood that persons proceeding upon ẏ^{e} plan, are entitled upon paying their passage money, to ships provisions, that is to say, salt meat, biscuit, water & fuuel. Thirty Guineas is now (1795) ẏ^{e} usual rate for a grown person in any of ẏ^{e} first rate ships; & half that sum, for a servant or child; tho' I believe some difference is made according to ẏ^{e} ages of Children. at this rate ẏ^{e} passage of my family would have cost me upwards of 200£, whereas by engaging ẏ^{e} Cabin of ẏ^{e} Hope for 150 G^{s}., letting off 5 births for 13½G^{s}. apiece, contributing at ẏ^{e} rate of 10G^{s}., each grown person for provisions & rating ẏ^{e} children & servant at half, I saved about 40£; & ẏ^{e} persons I took in, six G^{s}., & a half each.

Ten Guineas each for Provisions was so amply sufficient in our case, that tho' we took ẏ^{e} mate & ẏ^{e} Ships Steward (gratis) into our mess, if we had not lost our Pigs, & had been out only ẏ^{e} usual time (ẏ^{e} voyage lasted from Augst 1st to Nov^{r} 1st) we should not have had occasion to use any salt provisions, except our own Hams & Tongues. When an agreement of this kind is made, ẏ^{e} Capt^{n} becomes a party & contributes his share equally with ẏ^{e} rest; & his advice is to be taken as to ẏ^{e} kind & quality of stores to be laid in. he will also expect to have ẏ^{e} power of ordering every thing relating to their consumption at sea should any thing

worth dividing remain, at ȳ end of ȳ Voyage, ȳ Passengers have a right to claim, each his share.

The Live Stock will of course consist of Hogs, Sheep & Poultry. of these Hogs bear ȳ sea by much ȳ best. as to ȳ most proper place for keeping them, it would be best if they could be put between Decks. (this cannot be admitted complied with) but if they are penned under ȳ Boats, I would recommend a Rope-Netting, instead of a few slender & shattered boards, as was ȳ case in our Vessel, w^{ch} a heavy sea, washing over ȳ Deck has great power upon, & is sure to loosen & carry away; & probably ȳ animals at ȳ same time. Sheep being shy & timorous will not readily take their food at first, especially Hay, w^{ch} they are little used to. if grass is to be had, it would be proper to take some for them to eat at first & to use them to Hay by degrees.

It is very difficult to keep Poultry well at Sea. ȳ Sickness appears to affect them very much (old Fowl are not so much affected as young, they ought to be at least a year old) They grow dull & sleepy; & many will probably die notwithstanding all ȳ care that can be taken of them. a notion prevails that to give them plenty of Water will kill them, & so ȳ poor creatures are often suffered to die of thirst. This appetite is so craving that they will drink ȳ Sea-Water, w^{ch} ȳ Spray frequently throws into their troughs, or w^{ch} gets there by ȳ carelessness of those who wash ȳ Decks. ȳ Corn for them is often bad, being what is called *Light Corn*, w^{ch} has no nourishment in it, & they probably suffer for want of Gravel. from some or all of these causes, those of our fowls w^{ch} death spared us, were for ȳ most part such, when they came to table, as would have disgusted even a stomach not affected with ȳ Sea Sickness. Ducks & Geese bear ȳ sea much better than fowls—ȳ mortality among ours was by no means so great; & they were, tho' not very fleshy, yet generally well tasted. they had indeed a larger allowance of Water than ȳ fowls. if some of ȳ Passengers be able to attend to ȳ poultry they are likely to fare better, than when left to ȳ care, or rather ȳ carelessness

of ȳe Seamen. I do not recommend Goats for furnishing Milk for tea. preserved Milk is better; but then it must be very good, unadultered new Milk; any other will not keep. It is unnecessary to mention other articles, wch every Captn of a Ship knows how to order. I rather wish to point out a few wch we most felt ȳe want of.

We had ordered some Rusk or double baked bread, but ȳe Baker, either thro' ignorance or because he wished to give himself little trouble, only divided ȳe loaves in two, & after putting them into ȳe Oven, a short time, threw them hot into a cask, & sent them on Board; consequently they grew mouldy. they should have been cut into thin slices, thoroughly dried, & left to cool. Sago, Tapioca or Saloop are articles wch should by no means be neglected, but Acids are a most material affair. Lemons & Oranges do not keep well at sea. Limes are better than Lemons & perhaps ȳe juice would be still better than ȳe fruit. As to Pickles we found Walnuts to keep better than Cucumbers. plenty of bottled Gooseberries or green Currants should be laid in. no kind of pudding is more acceptable, tho by way of change, those of common currants & Raisins will be very agreeable. Ripe fruit, if ȳe season permit may be taken out; but as it cannot be depended on for keeping, *preserves* of all kinds, should be laid in plentifully. they should be boiled thick, but not made to sweet, as ȳe stomach seldom accommodates itself to things wch have much sugar in them. mild acids I found most acceptable when ȳe sickness was at ȳe worst. I would have given anything for a Stock of dried apples & Pears & tamarinds. Cream of Tartar is an almost indispensable article & should be laid in with an unsparing hand, as a most pleasant beverage may be made of it, commonly called *Imperial*. it is very proper to be provided with a medicine chest. I found it not only very useful for myself & Family but for ȳe other passengers, who had taken no precaution of ȳe kind. Purgatives & Diuretics will be of principal use; & it has been recommended to take ȳe former, when ȳe sickness has lasted no longer than twelve

hours, tho' on other accounts they might not seem to be absolutely necessary. of those matters or any others, w^{ch} may be intended for accommodation & comfort when ȳ Stomach is in a delicate state, I would advise every passenger, or at least every family to provide a competent store of *their own:* as many inconveniences will arise from having such things as these in a Common Stock. If I were to take a single passage, I would endeavour to agree for a few G^{s} less on condition of finding my own wine and liquors; & instead of laying them out in much of those articles, would provide ȳ lesser ones above mentioned; & w^{ch} to me would be infinitely preferable. To a person taking a Steerage passage a great deal of foresight & preparation is necessary & a strong Box, for what articles he carries, with compartments, utensils for cooking &c & but few of earthenware.

Notwithstanding ȳ hazard of ȳ Equinoctial Gales, I cannot but believe ȳ fall of ȳ year to be ȳ best season for an arrival in America. ȳ heats are then over, or at least moderating & ȳ winter will be much more tolerable to an English Constitution than ȳ summer for w^{ch} last he will probably be prepared by degrees in ȳ Spring Season. it is an easy & generally a profitable matter to transfer property from England to America. most commonly a considerable premium is given for Bills on England—sometimes 20 p^{r} Cent &c.

An Emigrant may bring his furniture clothes, books & tools, duty free, & provided that he makes oath that his packages contain no merchandize, they will be landed without examination. you will probably be required to say that ȳ articles you bring with you, have *mostly* been in use, but I look upon it to be no violation of ȳ oath if some new goods be among them, provided they are *bona fide* for y^{r} own use, for in that case they cannot come under ȳ denomination of merchandize & as every article of British manufacture will be found enormously dear, it is an object to save something in this way, but ȳ more ready made clothes ȳ better, for labour of every kind is extravagantly high.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Philadelphia, 22nd. Feb. 1795

"Bro. John has had opportunities of viewing the country on a pretty extensive scale. I am much concerned on his account. His mind seems much unsettled & he is undetermined whether to fix immediately as tenant on a farm and trust to his family following him, or first to arrange matters and then go to England to fetch them. It is a pity there is so much difference of opinion between his wife and him on the subject and what adds to his uneasiness is that he has had no letters from her except one which was wrote on the eve of his departure. Indeed we are all unfortunate in this respect and I only know by one letter from Mr. Roscoe of Liverpool that those we wrote immediately upon our arrival—got safely to hand—a short time—I am willing to hope —will make amends for our disappointment."

MR. WILLIAM DAVY TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

German Town May 22d, 1795

Dear Sir!

I am particularly obliged by your Favor of Jany. 23d with the Box of Books; the Parcell for Mr. Eddowes I deliver'd Immed^{y}—I have very frequently the Pleasure of meeting your Brother whose Information on Agriculture, & whose very obliging & communicative Disposition, introduce him to the most respectable Society, & Connections in this Country—he is at present engaged with one of our first Citizens to superintend some very large, & valuable landed Property—we wish him very anxiously to become our Neighbor.

You, with many other of our Friends express considerable Anxiety on Account of the *Voyage* hither—I can assure you ours was on the whole pleasant—the first few Days are attended with the greatest Inconvenience, & excite the greatest Anxiety of mind.

—It would be improper to say that the Eulogiums so generally lavished on this Country are strictly just—It has no Doubt much very much, to rejoice in & to boast of—but it is a terrestrial habitation, & subject to some Inconveniences & Dr. Edwards application of the term Paradise, in his Description was interested, & highly improper—The Climate is not *all* that could be wish'd, Sudden Changes from extreme heat, to extreme Cold are frequent & trying to the Constitution;—The frequency of *Gusts* & Thunderstorms is by no means agreeable,—but they are beneficial—the Falls it is true are delightfull, & the Winters tho' cold, are open & clear—of Spring the term is scarce known the Transition from Winter to Summer is sudden—& Vegetation is rapid beyond what, with you, would be thought possible. travelling, except just in the Summer Months is unpleasant from the badness of the Roads—but in Summer no Roads can be more agreeable, being all turf or natural Soil.

The manners of the People in higher Stations of Life, are in general agreeable—but those of the lower would illy suit the Habits of the majority of Europeans—*Subordination* is not understood, & it would be dangerous to attempt the propogation of such a System—the Man in his Dung Cart is as independant as the President in his Phaeton, & few of them would give Way to him on the Road—In too many Instances this Equality produces Contempt, & Insolence, the Farmers are generally a keen People, Shrew'd & keen in forming their Contracts & much dispos'd to resort to frivolous & dextrous Excuses to evade them if for thier Interest. On nothing Short of a Signature witness'd can Confidence be placed.—I cannot avoid attributing much of this Character to the System of Education, & the State of Religion—the former is very similar to that which Excisemen have rec^{d} in England—the latter is more of Bigotry than Liberality of Systems & Creeds than Morality—there is no Medium between high Calvanism, & Infidelity—to the Latter Paine's Age of Reason has made an astonishing Addition particularly in the great Cities; it

has been very generally read, & the Answers to it have been so contemptible as only to strengthen the Effect it had produced.

I have attended a few Places of Worship & have been generally much disgusted—to hear the Dogmas of Orthodoxy convey'd in the Language now almost obsolete in England I could not but feel hurt at—it is however in general use *in the Country*. I cannot give you a better Proof of its Effect than the Reply I rec^{d} to an Enquiry I made for the Character of a Landowner (a Deacon of the Church I found him to be) it was "that Godward he was a very good sound man,—but Manward he was a little tricking or so"—& this I found him to be.

Our Friend Mr. Porter (who I am told has given up Xty) has with Mr. Jardine made a good Purchase about 23 miles fm hence—Dr. Priestly's Refusal of the Chair of Professor of Chemistry at Ph^{a}, so very honorably offer'd him—(& which he at first gave Reason to expect he would accept) gave very many of us his Friends very great Concern—his Son Joseph I set down as the Cause—he wants to draw People to Northumberland & to this, his Fathers Residence there, may contribute—the College Scheme does not altogether meet my Ideas, before it is so far compleated as to be usefull, Dr. P. will I fear cease in the Course of Nature to be sufficiently so for such an Undertaking—I wish Interest had not had so much Influence in preventing great Usefulness.

At Philadelphia & New York a Man of popular Talents would as an Unitarian Preacher be very much attended to as there are in each so great a Number of English Families of liberal Sentiments & many of the Americans are reading & seeking for Information—in this Place, Germantown, we are a good party, & are this Week inviting Mr. Andrews (late of Wencaunton) now at Baltimore to visit us with a View of making up a Society—he has preached at Baltimore several times, & given Satisfaction to many altho', decidedly with us in Sentiment, but he has been told that he must subscribe the Sentiments before he can be admitted

as a regular Minister of thier Church—this he declines, & has Thoughts of going into Business if we do not get him here, which I hope for.

Provisions are enormously dear in the Cities—Wages are raised in exact Proportion so that no Poverty is seen.

Political Parties have run very high here but what is styled the democratic Party, or high Jacobins, more properly—are loosing Ground daily—had thier System been adopted—this Country instead of being in the flourishing State it is would have been experiencing all the Horrors of War abroad, & probably of Anarchy & Confusion at home—there are some very violent turbulent Spirits who would go all Lengths in following the Examples of the Jacobins of Paris—this Country needs no such Ordeals. With you it is otherways—a severe Reckoning must be held with some of those Wretches who have involved the Country in so much Misery. Our latest Accounts from France are alarming—it is feared that the *bloody* System is again reviving—to this the Enemies of France will be ready to lend thier mischievous Aid—to bring Contempt on the Cause &, by the Horror it excites, rivet the Chains of Slavery more securely. The trials for high Treason were much attended to, & rejoyced in by all the Friends of genuine Freedom in this Country. The Successes of the French & the Fall of the Court of Holland has been publickly celebrated in every considerable town in the U.S. In Philadelphia with peculiar Distinction—at two different times—first by the French Minister & his Friends & secondly by the Americans—the City Military join'd & with thier Cannon circulated a loud & decisive Voice of Approbation & joy.

The Conduct of Counsellor White will appear as contemptible to Posterity as that of many of his more exalted Coadjutors I should have thought that the misery he has assisted in bringing on his Country would have damp'd his Zeal & made him more temperate—but he is, depend on it *a false Brother* as a

Dissenter—& as a Politician the Tool of the Church & Court. I am glad Mr. Kentish has treated him so properly I shall be glad to see Mr. Rennells Sermon—I shall desire my Brother to pay you at first Sight half a Guinea as my Subscription to the Society. I have charter'd a very fine Ship to Sail from Bristol about the 1st of Sepr (the *Caesar*, of this Place) for this Port any further Allotment of Books my Brother can convey to me by her. I beg you to present my Respects to such of my Friends as enquire for me to Mr. Toulmin in particular when you see or write to him (his Son is very much esteem'd at Lexington)—to Mr. Reynells allso I beg particular Remembrance I wish you *all*, Happiniss, but I confess I tremble for the Events that must take Place in England & wish my dear children were here with many other of my Relatives & Friends—but It is with great Caution I invite my Friends to quit thier Country & hazard the important Change for this—because although on the whole I feel very great Happiness from the Resolution I took, & the Situation I am now in, Yet some others have been disappointed & even disgusted, it has been the Case with Persons who had never quitted thier Homes before or been accustomed to any manners or Circumstances but those of a narrow Society & of a Country town. & these would have been equally dissatisfied with a Change from Cornwall to Yorkshire as they are with that of England for America. I am every Day becoming more & more attached to this Country, as is my Family, & begin to feel an Interest in what passes about me, & the very particular Friendship I have experienced is some Compensation for the Loss of Friends in England—& as I expect permanent Establishment here for my Family I have made a small Purchase & expect to live in a few Weeks on a neat Farm, adjoining to this town & Six Miles from the City.

Mr. Richard Davis I see very frequently, & am very happy to say that he is become steady—prudent—& attentive to Business & I have no Doubt Of his becoming a good Citizen.

I shall be allways happy in the Favor of your Correspondence & with Respects to Mrs. Kenrick I am sincerely

Dear Sir, y^{r} obliged Friend

Will^{m} Davy

I beg Respects to Mr. Weymouth, the last Acquaintance I bid Adieu to in England.

P.S. June 1st. I was unfortunately too late for the Vessell I intended sending it by—it will now go by the William Penn for London. & I am sorry to request you to take no notice of what I have said with much Pleasure of Richard Davis as it gives me greater Pain so soon after to be obliged to cancell it—I hear very unpleasant Reports of him & I really fear his Resolution has faild him.

I have just seen a Gentleman from Northumberland who inform'd me that Dr. Priestley had been requested by the Judges of the supreme Court, to preach before them at Tunbury the County town when on thier Circuit, which he complied with, & most of the principal Lawyers & persons of Consequence in that Country attended—they were so much pleased that an Invitation was given the Doctor to dine with which he allso accepted & appear'd very chearfull & happy. This was about a fortnight since the Clerk of the Presbyterian Church where the Service was held refused to officiate & one of the Lawyers took his Place. This is the beginning of Liberality & so exalted an Example will have its Effect. the orthodox presbyterian Clergy are a little alarmed & are severe in their Invectives against the Sentiments of the Doctor—If they are prudent they will be silent. Mr. & Mrs. Eddoes & Family are well I din'd with them the 30th Ult^{o} at thier very pleasant Country Residence.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

June 1795

"Bro. John is gone into Maryland to superintend the estates of a Mr. Bell of this place with an appointment of 400 dollars per ann. besides his expenses. He appears to so much advantage in the eyes of the Americans as an *English Farmer*, that whether his family follow him or not, it appears to me he will not be happy in any other country."

"My own situation in which I experience more satisfaction than in any former period, only wants the society of the valued friends and relative whom I left behind. I fear an obstacle will arise in the delicate state of your wife's health. Mrs. E. has been subject to complaints of the same kind but they have not affected her more than before she left England except in making her considerably thinner and I hope the country air will prevent them from being followed by any serious consequences!"

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Exeter June 12^{t} 1795

Dear Father

We arrived here last night at 7.0 o'clock safe & in good health. we had ^{e}y pleasure to find ^{e}y little ones we left behind well & in high spirits upon our return. Lucy & John I believe are not sorry to see home again. notwithstanding ^{e}y kindness of their friends to them but they desire me to tell their Aunt Martha, that ^{e}y reason of their being so merry in bed at Ruabon ^{e}y last night they spent there, was because they had that day finished their french verbs, & not from ^{e}y idea that they were going home. they & we are much indebted to you all for your great kindness during our long stay.

At Shrewsbury we learnt that Mrs. Urwick, Mr. Jos. Eddowes' sister had died on Monday last, after being in a state of declining health for some time, & that Mr. Rowe had lost his

little boy by ye Hooping Cough. we dined at W. Bromwich on Tuesday, & spent ye night there. Archibald has a very good house & within a short distance of his Foundery. The following day we dined with Mr. Harry Hunt at Lady Wood near Birmingham & had ye pleasure of meeting Mr. & Mrs. Rickards of London there. from hence we were obliged to make ye best of our way home, without stopping by ye road. we reached Worcester that night & spent ye next at Old Down 14 miles beyond Bath.

Mr. Jenkins of Whitchurch read me part of a Letter wch he had just received from Mr. Parsons at Philadelphia dated ye 16t of April in wch he says that Bror John had engaged with Mr. Bell to superintend his estates for this season, & that he was in good health & spirits. I am glad he has got an employment, more especially as he may acquire experience & knowledge at another person's expense. Mr. Joseph Lee informed me that ye delay respecting my Brothers affairs is occasioned by a difficulty wch ye Court of Registry at Chester find in granting Letters of Administration. & that they have at length consented to it only upon condition that my sisters sign an instrument declaring that it is their request or that they assent. I suppose now matters cannot be delayed much longer, but whatever ye Assignees may do, I hope you will settle everything wch depends upon your self & respects your own Family without any farther delay. matters of this nature are of too much moment to be left to be frustrated by accidents. We are come back to a land of scarcity. Old Potatoes, for new ones are not yet brought to market, sell for sixteen pence a Peck, & wheat at twelve shillings a Bushel. ye Farmers bring none to market, but send it to those who give them orders. the Hamboro' wheat, consisting of four thousand bushels will be a very seasonable supply. ye Magistrates of ye Country of Devon & City of Exeter, I am told, have prohibited any White Bread to be made & require ye Bakers to sell only what has a mixture of Bran in it.

Mr. Blackford of Topsham, a Dissenting minister at a place three miles from Exeter preached a farewel sermon to his people last Sunday, previous to his embarking for America, in w^{ch} country he has been invited to settle with a Congregation. fourteen other emigrants sail in ẏ^{e} same ship.

My wife desires her kindest love to you all, ẏ^{e} children send their love to Grandfather & Grandmother to Uncle [Paper broken their Cousin Sam^{l} with their best thanks for all ẏ^{e} by seal.] w^{ch} they have given them in w^{ch} I beg leave to join them.

I remain Dear Father
y^{r} dutif^{l}
& aff^{te} son
T. Kenrick.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

July, 1795

"I suppose you will have heard by this time that Bro. John has no immediate intention of returning to England indeed I think he could not in the time have formed a proper estimate of the country & the engagement he is under at present will of course detain him. I have seen a letter from his wife in which she urges every argument she can think of *against* a settlement here, that to me nothing can be plainer than that the apprehension of forfeiting all hope of assistance from the Savage family (who are inveterate in their opposition to the scheme) is at the bottom of all. It is certainly incumbent on him to come to a decision upon the matter and I wish him to do it impartially but I am greatly mistaken indeed if he would ever be happy in England after seeing how independent and agreeable a life an American farmer may live."

"Brother James writes to one of the girls in a rather low-spirited way. The abominable oppression he has experienced from the excise laws is enough to break any honest man's heart—I wish him a happy delivrance from them."

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Exeter Aug. 9th. 1795

Dear Father

I have only time to write you a few lines by Mrs. Hughes, who passes through Exeter to visit her sister Mrs. Parry of ye Garthen.

I received your Letter of ye 6th. Aug. yesterday & am happy to find you are all well. ye accounts you give of ye price of corn & of ye prospects respecting ye approaching Harvest are truly melancholy. ye scarcity is not so great in this city, owing to ye purchase of a Cargo of Hambro' wheat wch. is sold at a reduced price to ye poor, & will continue to supply us till October. I do not hear that any yellow insect has appeared in ye year of corn in this country. I hope therefore ye evil is local & confined to a small district. I suppose we shall have corn reaped this week.

About a month ago Mr. Manning resigned his place as one of ye Minister's of George's Meeting House, declaring that he thought three ministers too many for one place, in consequence of his resignation, Mr. Bretland *offered* to resign likewise, but they have both been requested to resume their office, and have both agreed to do it, so that we continue exactly as we were before. Some persons who pretend to be in ye secret, say, that Mr. M. had no intention of leaving ye Congregation but intended making one of his colleagues do so, & finding that they could neither of them be removed was willing to resume his office again. considering ye business as a trial of strength between Mr. Manning & Mr. Bretland I avoided taking part on either side.

I have received a letter from Brother Jno. at Baltimore in wch. he tells me that he is come there to superintend ye estates of Mr. Bell & seems well pleased with his situation & prospects. he wishes for his family over for he sais he is sure he has a livelihood for them. Mr. Davy tells me that his communicative disposition

& his knowledge of agriculture make him generally liked by ȳ Americans. I think he has a fair prospect of doing well there.

My wife with Lucy & John unite in love to you all. ȳ former sais she will write to Mother soon. Wishing you a good harvest, I remain,

Dear Father

yr. affte. son

Timothy Kenrick.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Oct. 1795

"It is now near 3 months since I saw Bro. John. He is still engaged in carrying on Mr. Bell's improvements. I am grieved at my very heart at the situation of his family affairs. The alienation of the paternal estate from her son seems to affect his wife greatly, and I am apprehensive she has shewn this in such a way as has given the family at Ruabon some offence. Alas! in what point of union will they meet! he is not fond of her relations and she is differing from his—probably neither he will be happy in England nor she in America. One thing at least seems pretty certain—that he must return for I find the agitation of his mind has much impaired his health. What their plan of life will be I am at a loss even to conjecture.

"I am happy to hear such a flattering account of your son. I see about none of mine any symptoms of scholarship. Ralph says he will be a farmer and I think he will make a better figure in that line than in any other."

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Dear Father Exeter. April 9th 1796

I was glad to learn from Sister Martha's Letter that you were all so well. ȳ Winter has been unusually mild, & it gives me

pleasure to find that my mother has experienced ȳ benefit of it by escaping colds. Brother James will persever I hope in ȳ use of Horse exercise as he derives already so much advantage from it. I continue mine almost every day & hope by this means to prevent ȳ disorder from growing worse, if I cannot entirely cure ȳ tendency to it. I have dismissed my Groom who was lame, idle drunken & dishonest & engaged an active boy of about 12 years of age to take care of ȳ Mare, who takes her to & from ȳ field, & saddles her for me. he has done this for me about three weeks & I am hitherto well pleased with his services. her heels are getting well & she is improving fast. everybody tells me she is in foal but I believe they are mistaken.

To pass from my horse to my children—they are all well. Lucy & Mary indeed have been a little out of order & we sent them to Mr. Waymouth ȳ Druggist's House in ȳ Country, where they are still but they are now nearly well, & we expect them home in a few days. Jn° after being with Mr. Lloyd three years, has just begun to learn Greek, and french, he & Lucy have been my Scholars these twelvemonths. Poor George will never I fear be a strong lad, but he is not behind any one of them in ȳ use of his tongue.

Provisions of all kinds have been very high during ȳ Winter, for Butter we have paid a shilling & 13^{d} a pound, it is now a little lower. altho' we have signed no agreement we make our bread of flower from w^{ch} no Bran has been taken, mixed with a little Barley flower. & I like ȳ Bread made in this manner better than any we can get from ȳ Bakers. I believe I feel a partiality for it, from its being like your Brown bread to which I was accustomed when a boy.

Your accounts from America are later than ours. Brother John's Letter to me was dated on ȳ first of Jan^{y} in this he talked of returning to England, but seemed to have fixed upon no particular time for his voyage. I hope to see him this summer. If you

or Brother James have money to lay out in ẏ purchase of American Stock this is a very favourable time for buying, as ẏ Funds are, from what cause I know not, very low, & cheaper in London than America. there is so much folly & extravagance on this side of ẏ water that I think ẏ security of that Government much better than our own.

Mess^{rs} Jn^{o} & George Waymouth have given up their house in Exeter & are building at Dawlish upon a Cliff commanding a very fine view of ẏ sea. when peace returns & there is more business to do, they propose taking a House in Exeter or ẏ neighbourhood. Mr. Jn^{o} Waymouth has been confined to ẏ house for several weeks in consequence of a Boil w^{ch} broke out upon his leg, but is now pretty well recovered, Mr. Judgson has been spending a few weeks with them & is just returned to Shropshire.

We have lost since Christmas Mrs. Sam Waymouth & Mrs. Mary Waymouth ẏ former by a complaint in her lungs under which she had laboured for ẏ last two years, ẏ latter by a dropsy in ẏ Chest w^{ch} carried her off suddenly. Mrs. Sam^{l} Waymouth had survived all her children, who were six in number, & had reached ẏ state of Men & Women. ẏ only remaining descendant is a Grand Daughter about eleven years of age, to whom ẏ fortune of ẏ Grandfather, w^{ch} is very considerable, being acquired by near sixty years' successful application to business must devolve. what is to be regretted is the want of a Mother to superintend her education.

On Sunday last we lost Miss Green, an acquaintance I believe of my Sister's, by a cancer in her breast, which did not break externally but affected her breath pretty much in the same manner as Aunt Edw^{d} Kenrick was affected in ẏ last period of ẏ complaint. her Uncle Mr. Green, an experienced Apothecary, assured her but ẏ day before her death, that she was in no more danger, in his apprehension than himself. she bare her sufferings with great fortitude & perfect resignation.

My wife desires to be affectionately remembered to you all & commissions me to tell Martha that she is much obliged to her for her letter. having just taken a new servant, she is afraid she shall not be able to go to London this Spring. Lucy & Jn° desire their love we are all much obliged to you for y^r^ kind intentions respecting ȳ^e^ cheese, w^ch^ is an acceptable present at all times, but more especially now. I beg to be kindly remembered to Mary, Martha & James. likewise to my cousins Sarah & Betsy who I understand are with you. I hope you & my Mother will accept of my best wishes for y^r^ welfare.

Y^rs^ affectionately

T. Kenrick.

SAMUEL KENRICK OF BEWDLEY TO TIMOTHY

Dear Nephew

I think Dr. William's trustees did right in raising their the Unitarian Society Books, I have only received 2 parcels, directed to me & Mr. Bennett—but none for Mr. Skey of Spring Grove—nor hath he since received any—which has been a great disappointment to Miss Skey at least who is zealous in our cause & the only one in the family who avows a public attachment to our Society—both father & son having long deserted us. But as the Father has sent you his subscription, & I dare say will continue to do it, I make no doubt you will take care to supply the omission & make a proper apology for it, either by me or a letter addressed to himself viz. Saml. Skey of Spring Grove Esqre. Bewdley. Above I send you an order for £1 for Mr. Bennett's annual Subscription & my own. We shall be glad to have what books we are intitled to when they are ready: among wch. Mr. Bennett would like to have a copy or 2 of vol. III^d^ Trinitarian Tracts—Do. Farmer Truman's advice—Do. Seddons Discourses Do. Comforts of Arabella & Do. Practical Instructions 5 or 6 copies. When you send me any more I should be obliged for a

copy or two of Dr. Hartley's Defence of Revelation, wch. I read with much profit & wish to have it in my power to communicate to my friends. It would give me the highest pleasure to see some further extracts out of that most able & amiable person's writings on these or similar subjects, as they must be excellent.

I much approve of your intended publication of a vol. of family Prayers, & am so impatient to see it that I should like to get it, when published by the nearest conveyance. I mean by Bristol when you may probably easily send it, & if so, to be left (directed to me till called for) at Messrs Tyndall, Elton & Co.

I need not say what concern, indeed what serious affliction your cousins in Birm. have cost us. We did all in our power & more than prudence would justify to serve & support them. But it has pleased an alwise Providence to counteract our well meant endeavours & disappoint our flattering hopes. And as we know it is our duty we wish patiently & cheerfully to submit to all its dispensations, as they are all ordered for the wisest & best purposes. As they are young as you observe, & have now entered the useful though expensive school of experience, it is to be hoped they will in future be more attentive to their true interest & more deserving of the countenance & confidence of their best friends—whether it be their lot to remain here or try their fortune in America. In either case, frugality & industry, with the blessing of God—are indispensable.

We have all heard—repeatedly—of Dr. Priestley's success in America, & we rejoice most sincerely in those good tidings. The worthy Dr's warm wishes & the glorious prospects he holds out to his European friends in these dark dismal gloomy times must with really conscientious & able men, carry great weight. It is little less than the finger of God pointing out the way they ought to go. I am not therefore surprized that you should feel its force. But yet I should be sorry to see this country deserted by its best friends, although in the course of nature I have little to fear

from it. In the meantime with all the disadvantages attending your present stay here you cannot be insensible of one invaluable to your promising rising young family in having them educated by good teachers under your eye. What would not your worthy brother Eddowes give for such an advantage. Young men, as you justly observe, have no such incumbrance. But what will become of this poor devoted country if we are to be thus deserted.

How uncertain are all human sublunary projects. How little did I dream ever to see the fall of Hackney, rising from the ashes of Warrington, under the direction of the most virtuous the most enlightened & the most public spirited men of the age. How many congratulatory letters had I the pleasure of exchanging ever since its first establishment wth. its first Founder & liberal protector the late Mr. Thos. Rogers. By the bye how are the annual subscriptions to be disposed of? As the College is shut up do they of course terminate?

We are happy in the project of seeing you again this season, & hope Mrs. Kenrick will accompany you & make a longer stay with us. I am glad to hear your son John is so fond of his book—I have a Gr. Test. of his great grandfather's at his service when he is able to make use of it. I presume you know that Mr. Corrie is setting up a school in the neighbourhood of Birmingham in a large commodious gentleman's House where he proposes taking about 25 pupils & is to be married to a Miss Read of Kiddr., a young sprightly sensible damsel. He seems to be very well qualified for the business & will I make no doubt meet with success. With our united affecte. regards to yourself, Mrs. K. & all your little ones,

I am Yours S.K.

I am much entertained in reading Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works. Indeed they are to me a fund of wonderful amusement. His indefatigable & boundless knowledge astonish me—compared with his seeming natural indolence. His vanity & prejudices are

pardonable His cavalier treatment of Dr. Priestley is a strong presumption of his feeling the Dr's superiority. His self examination & self condemnation remind one of the virtues of Antoninus or of a religious anchorite. & if you will read his account of Mr. & Mrs. p. 119 & in french 125 you will have a just tho' flattering picture of the gay life I & my pupil spent at Lausanne from May to October 1761—3 yrs. after

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Oct. 1796

"Brother John will probably have taken the opportunity of returning in the ship which conveys this, but after staying with us about a fortnight he returned into Maryland, upon some business, not expecting that this opportunity would offer. I am afraid some hazard will attend his return on account of the resolution adopted by the French Government respecting neutrall vessels, but as he will be entitled on Nov. 1st to his citizenship of the U.S. it will be prudent to take it up and so secure his personal freedom in case of being carried into France. Cos J. Kenrick is with us and we are all very well."

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Nov. 1796

"We had heard of the disagreeable accident your Father met with, and of his having recovered from the effects of it. It should seem to have been occasioned by a plethoric affection which would be removed by the remedies he applied and I trust need not be considered in any alarming light.

"J. Kenrick has engaged to assist me in my Store for 12 months at 6 dollars per week, having no immediate prospect of getting a situation in the Chandlery line. I have no doubt but he will be very useful to me, & my business may at least prove an introduction to something better while it secures him from the inconvenience of being out of employment."

"Bro. John is anxiously seeking for an opportunity of returning to England. These opportunities are few and the sums demanded for a passage very extravagant—however I think it probable you will hear of his arrival in a short time after you receive this, indeed he this moment informs me that he is on the point of agreeing for a passage in the Philadelphia."

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Feb. 1797

"Your Brother and my Brother Citizen* John left us about the time your last letter was wrote, and we are hoping very short[ly to] hear of [his] safe arrival. He left America with a full intention of return[ing] soon, but so many difficulties will probably be in the way that I [have] no sanguine hopes of it. I am sorry he was likely to find one of [his] children ill of so alarming a complaint."

*This is a reference to the fact that he had lived long enough in America by November 1796 to be naturalised—an important privilege if the ship in which he was returning to England was captured by the French.

RALPH EDDOWES TO TIMOTHY KENRICK

Nov. 1797

"The last I heard of you was by a letter from Bro. John soon after he had paid you a visit & was glad to have so good an account of your health, tho' at the same time he mentioned your spirits having been affected. I shall be happy to hear that this complaint, with any cause of it, has been completely removed."

"I have heard that Bro. John has taken a farm near Bridgenorth. Tho' I reflect with much regret it is probable we shall see each other no more, yet I am glad some plan has at length been adopted, and I hope it will prove that which on the whole, will be most conducive to his happiness and that of his family."

CHAPTER VII

TIMOTHY OF EXETER'S LAST LETTERS

Exeter. Dec. 4. 1797

DEAR FATHER

I thank you for your long & very acceptable Letter. it gave me much pleasure to hear that you were well after ye fatigues of harvest, & that ye corn was saved in better condition than could be expected. ye assistance you gave to Brother John was very seasonable. I hope that with a farm of moderate rent joined to his own industry & skill he will soon be able to do well again. I have not heard from Archibald this long time. I hope he goes on well. CHAP. VII

I think Dr. William's trustees did right in raising their Rents. a considerable addition was necessary in order to keep pace with ye profits of ye Farmer & ye increased price of all ye necessaries of Life, were their exhibitions to remain where they were some years ago, they would now be but half their value at that time. they should take care however that their tenants are not over burthened.

Since ye Cold Weather has set in, I have found myself as well as usual I still however continue ye practice of Bathing three times a Week, in a Machine called a Shower Bath, wch has something of ye appearance of a Clock case, with a Cullinder at ye top of it, through wch ye water descends upon my head from a hollow Cylinder wch I overturn by pulling a string. I can assure you that the cold I feel by bathing in this way is much greater than what I used to experience by jumping into ye sea, it gave me ye Rheumatism in my shoulders when I first used it, & during ye late severe weather I was obliged to add a little warm water to take off ye chill but now ye weather is perfectly warm again & I can use ye water without any addition.

What think you of our new Taxes? They strike people in this part of ye world with amazement. they hardly know how to believe that their present heavy burthens are to be trebled or made four fold heavier. judging by our deserts, I think they can

hardly be too heavy, we now begin to taste ȳ some of ȳ bitter fruits of ȳ War, & I wish these were all we had to fear. they talk more than ever of invading us. & should they be able to execute their purpose would create inconceivable confusion. The authors & promoters of ȳ War begin now to appear in their true light.

I am glad to find by your accownts from America that Mr. Eddowes & his family have escaped ȳ Contagion of ȳ fever at Philadelphia. Lucy received a Letter from her cousin Sarah Eddowes, but of no later date than Sept^{r}. I have not heard from Mr. E. these six months. from whence I conclude that his Letters have miscarried.

Miss Jerwood, a Lady of our Congregation with a fortune of thirty thousand Pounds, earned by ȳ hard industry of her Father, has lately married a Mr. Hereford a fortune hunter without a penny, but a man of genteel address & agreeable manners. what makes it more surprising is that ȳ Lady is not very young & cannot plead youthful ignorance being advanced to ȳ sober age of forty. ȳ lure is supposed to have been a title w^{ch} will descend to him after two lives, when Miss Jerwood may become Lady Hereford. Sister Martha is acquainted with his Father & Sister who were formerly our neighbours.

Mr. Rowe of Shrewsbury has just been invited to succeed Mr. Wright of Bristol in ȳ Congregation w^{ch} meets at Lewinsmead & will I hope accept of it. I shall be glad to have him in what I may call this neighbourhood & I shall rejoice to see him in a situation where his talents will be more extensively useful. Bristol, if he removes there will bring him much nearer to his friends in Devonshire who are numerous as well as those of Mrs. Rowe.

I have taken in my horse for ȳ Winter, but know not how she will bear standing in ȳ stable. it grieves me sore that by keeping a horse I shall stand so high in ȳ List of Assessed persons. people here say that if ȳ French were to come, they could

do no more than triple & quadruple our Taxes, & that Mr. Pitt leaves us nothing to fight for.

Our little folks are all well & those of them whom you are acquainted with unite with us in love to you & Grandmother, to their Uncle & Aunts. Miss Morgan of Cullompton is at present on a visit to us. I remain dear Father

y^r^ affect^te^ son

T. Kenrick.

P.S. My love to James & tell him that I am much obliged to him for his Letter.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Dear Father Exeter. Ap. 25. 1798

Before this time my wife & myself & a majority of our little Family hoped to have paid you a visit at Ruabon, but George has been & still is so much indisposed with a Cough, that we are obliged for ȳ^e^ present to lay aside all thoughts of ȳ^e^ journey. at first we supposed it to be nothing more than an ordinary cold, only a little more violent than usual, but we have now reason to think that it is ȳ^e^ hooping cough, at least there is every symptom of that disorder except ȳ^e^ Hoop w^ch^ however we expect to hear in a few days. in other respects his health is not at all affected at present, but we cannot help feeling some anxiety for him as he is a delicate child. he & his Mother are at lodgings at Madford, a farm House, about a mile from ȳ^e^ Town but Dr. Daniel advises us to remove him to some place at a greater distance.

I am glad to find by a Letter w^ch^ I received from Bro^r^ Jn^o^ yesterday, that they are better settled in servants, than at first & go on more comfortably. had ȳ^e^ above mentioned obstacle not occurred I proposed spending a day or two with him at Little Coton.

I received a letter from Mr. Eddowes to-day. they have had a long & severe Winter but are in good health. ȳ^e^ Letter is dated ȳ^e^ 5^th^ of March & at that time they had received no letters

from their friends of later date than one of mine of ȳe 7th of Octr they expected Letters however by a Liverpool ship wch they had heard had been driven to ȳe West Indies by stress of Weather. their religious society went on as usual, but politics, he sais, were too gloomy a subject to dwell upon. but I know not whether he refers to ȳe Politics of this Country or those of America ȳe Politics of this Country are indeed gloomy enough, but I rather suppose he must mean ȳe Politics of America wch are also in a bad state as well as ours.

The additional assessed Taxes fell so heavy upon me as to induce me to shut up some of ȳe Windows in ȳe front of my house: & I was so profane as to allow my workmen to do this on Good Friday, wch so offended Mr. Pomery, a Calvanistic Clergyman who lives opposite to me as to provoke him to send me a Letter upon ȳe subject. this led to several others, but ȳe controversy ended as controversies usually do by leaving both ȳe parties more fully confirmed in their own opinion. he sent me Bishop Porteus's Earnest Exhortation to keep ȳe day & I sent him Robinson's History & Mystery of Good Friday.

To-day there was a Meeting at our Guildhall of ȳe principal Inhabitants to consider of a plan for arming themselves for ȳe defence of ȳe City & Cownty of Exeter, wch was approved with great applause, one Gentleman said he should send his plate to ȳe Bank & they concluded ȳe business with singing ȳe Loyal song of "God save ȳe King" wch ȳe leader of ȳe Meeting & several old people sung with ȳe tears trickling down their cheeks. I was not at ȳe Meeting, but I am told that one or two Clergymen are so very zealous for fighting ȳe French, that they have declared their intentions of throwing off their Gowns, if they should land.

My wife & ȳe children join in kind love to you all. Pray tell James that he is a Letter in my debt & that [seal] hear from him soon. I am

yrs affly

T. Kenrick.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Dear Father Exeter. Oct^{r} 21st 1799

I think it is a long time since I heard of you from yourself, altho I have not been without hearing of your being well from more than one Quarter.

I fear you have had a great deal of trouble with your harvest w^{ch} has been an uncommonly wet season in this part of ẏ^{e} kingdom. there is a good deal of Barley still out, rotting or growing upon ẏ^{e} grownd. what has been saved of that & ẏ^{e} winter corn is not in ẏ^{e} best state. Barley is already at 4.6 a Bushel Winchester.

I have taken ẏ^{e} house adjoining to my own for one year from Michaelmas, & I have now two pupils at my house as Boarders, besides one more who boards with his Parents in ẏ^{e} town. this is but a small beginning, but we hope it may come to something more. a Subscription has been opened & a Society formed for ẏ^{e} support of Divinity Students w^{ch} will I hope in time do much good. ẏ^{e} students are to be placed under my care, & to receive instruction from us both. I shall send Bro^{r} James a Copy of ẏ^{e} Resolutions in a few days, w^{ch} will shew you what has been done. Our people do not enter into these schemes with all ẏ^{e} zeal I could wish, but they do perhaps as much as could be expected, considering ẏ^{e} badness of ẏ^{e} times, & how much this town in particular has suffered by ẏ^{e} War. Y^{e} Exeter Library, we are told, will soon be sent to us from Hackney.

Mr. Coffin ẏ^{e} first of my pupils is ẏ^{e} son of a wealthy Tanner at Bridgend in Glamorganshire, & a grandnephew of Dr. Price, a good stock. he is very amiable young man & will I hope make a useful character.

Mr. Castle ẏ^{e} second, is ẏ^{e} son of a Rectifier of Spirits at Bristol, who is sent to spend a year with us before he settles in trade with his father. Mr. Shute is ẏ^{e} son of a Gentleman, who was lately in business as a Grocer, but having a very handsome fortune

left him has retired. ẽ son was for a few years with his father but discovering no turn for trade he intends to bring him up as a minister.

I have now given you ẽ history of my new family. they are very orderly & regular at present & I hope will continue so.

What progress have you made in your Colliery? have you fownd coals or do you suppose yourselves near them? I long to hear of your having made this grand discovery.

Mr. Eddowes in a Letter w^ch^ I received from him since I was in Wales, tells me that they had a fine Spring & Summer & were then just finishing part of their Harvest, by w^ch^ I suppose he must mean his hay. he still perseveres in thinking that ẽ climate of England is not to be compared to that of America. since I received that Letter, I had another from Mr. Young a friend of his, who was arrived from America in London, & had brought with him a small present for my daughter Lucy from one of her cousins. he tells me that he means to visit you at Ruabon, w^ch^ I was glad to hear as it must afford my mother & you great satisfaction to see one who has been at Stapely farm & who is so well acquainted with their situation. I had a letter from John a few days since, by w^ch^ I learn that they are all well, but he complains much of ẽ expence attending his harvest. in this I suppose he is not singular.

My wife sends her love to you all, as do likewise ẽ children. I hope to hear from you soon, & remain, Dear Father

y^rs^ affe^y^ T. Kenrick.

TIMOTHY KENRICK TO HIS FATHER

Dear Father Exeter May 4th. 1801

I was glad to find by my sister's Letter that altho' my Mother had been poorly she was much better, & that ẽ same account was further confirmed by my Letter from Brother James. I hope she has taken advantage of ẽ late fine weather to go much

into ye open air, and that she feels her strength much recruited. we have had no rain for several weeks, & if I may form a judgement of ye state of ye Country from ye Grass Plot in my garden, it begins to be much wanted. I am told however that ye Wheat never looked better at this time of ye year than at present. ye populace or as they call themselves ye people of Exeter have been very turbulent, & in many instances have threatened violence to ye Farmer in case he did not bring his corn to market at a reduced price. but they are now kept quiet by a weekly distribution of Bread in our Churches at half ye Baker's price. This expence is supported by a subscription of three thousand Pounds, but it must be long expended before Harvest; & I cannot help fearing what ye consequence may be when this aid to ye poor can no longer be afforded.

Ye general opinion wch. I find prevails among people is that there is plenty of corn in ye Country & that ye high price is wholly owing to a combination among ye Farmers. it is in vain that I tell them, that there can be no monopoly of a commodity, wch. is in so many hands.—that ye vendor of an article, must know best, whether there be a scarcity of it & that it must be against ye Farmer's interest to withhold grain from ye market unless he were persuaded that there were no great quantity in ye Country. all that I can get in reply to this reasoning is, that ye high price is all owing to ye roguery of ye Farmers, of wch. they speak as familiarly & confidently, as of ye roguery of thieves & pickpockets. in short I do not know any set of men who are worse thought of at this moment than ye Farmers, nor is it safe for anyone to say a word in their defence, as I am sometimes tempted to do.

I find that Mr. Johns has left Wrexham & that there is a vacancy again for ye Charity School. I have written to James to tell him that there is a young Man of my family, Mr. Parry, who is inclined to make trial of ye situation. I should rather wish him to settle as a Minister with a Congregation, where I have no

doubt he would be useful & happy, but it will be a great advantage to ye Town & to ye School if he goes to Wrexham I have not therefore opposed ye design. I have written to Mr. Wilkinson likewise on ye same subject, but not yet received an answer.

Since ye above was written Mr. Wilkinson's answer to my Letter has arrived, & I am sorry to learn that there is too much reason to fear that ye old leaven of bigotry has been again at work among some of ye good people of Wrexham, & had too great a share in some late transactions respecting ye Charity School. I hope however that those who have incurred ye suspicion will be able to clear themselves from ye imputation. whatever may be done by individuals, I am persuaded that ye general body of Dr. Williams Trustees would never countenance anything illiberal & unhandsome. till this matter is cleared up it would be in vain for anyone to think of opening a school there.

I am sorry to find that your mining scheme does not prove more successful—much money expended & no return. how long is it proposed that this should be continued. I hope you will be rewarded at last for your perseverance. how goes on your railed road. I expect it will be completed before there are coals to be drawn upon it.

Our Vacation commences at Midsummer soon after wch. I hope to see you & my Mother at Ruabon, but I do not know whether I must not first accompany my wife to London. Should that be ye case it will probably be ye middle of July [before] I can come into Wales.

My wife sends her kind love to you all, as do likewise ye [children]

I remain, Dear Father,
Yrs. affy.
T. [Kenrick]

Parry came to Exeter to the Academical Trust on the recommendation of the Rev. Charles Lloyd, Lampeter, and was received by Timothy Kenrick into his house a free boarder—with tuition—but not washing, coals, candles, for one year. July 16th, 1800. Term began September 1st.

CHAPTER VIII

LETTERS FROM WEST BROMWICH AND YORK

LETTERS FROM WEST BROMWICH AND YORK

THE Revd. Timothy Kenrick died suddenly on August 22nd, 1804, when on a preaching tour; he was buried at Wrexham. The following letters were written by Mrs. Archibald Kenrick to his daughter Lucy.

Mrs. A. Kenrick had two sisters, one married Thomas Ryland and the other was Mrs. Cumberland.

Archibald Kenrick had given up the buckle business and started as an iron-founder at West Bromwich in 1791. He began by making coffee-mills, and added other kinds of hardware later.

The brother mentioned in the second letter was Samuel. John Kenrick the second, of Wynne Hall, died in 1803.

MRS. A. KENRICK TO LUCY DAUGHTER OF TIMOTHY

West Bromwich,
Nov. 10th, 1804

Indeed my dear Lucy I feel myself chargable with neglect in not having answered your kind letter sooner. I am sure it is not occasioned by want of thinking of you, for you have occupied my thoughts very frequently: you must impute it to the right cause which is my disuse of letter writing of late, which habit I perceive grows upon one very much, for when I was your age I was a frequent correspondent and then took pleasure in the exercise of my pen.

I thought sister Mary looked much better for her journey, but she did not think so herself she was full of complaints and had Mr Jowett's advise. she fancyed herself dropsical but he told her not to be at all alarmed for she had no symptom of that complaint, but his opinion did not seem to convince her she still retained her own and was always taking something while she was here that she thought good for the Dropsey. I think she will be much better when she gets into her usual occupations at home it will draw off her attention from herself, for I am convinced her chief complaints are in her own imagination (and certainly that is

a powerful possession). She stayed with us 3 weeks and then went to Offmore and Bewdley from whence she was to return to Ruabon. She was much pleased with her visit to Exeter and with the kind attention paid to her by you all. She gave us as favourable an account of the state of your health and spirits as we could expect. I was glad to find you were more tranquilized and had resumed your accustomed occupations, sincerely do I hope you will continue a happy family together: and though it has pleased Divine Providence to visit you early with affliction in the loss of your beloved and highly valuable parent yet has he declared that he will not lay upon his creatures a burden heavier than he will enable them to bear, and time that healing balm of calamity, with his lenient hand will throw a softened veil over your sorrows and you will contemplate his exalted character (with deep regret indeed for his loss) but not with that poignant anguish which the first sensation of grief excites. You will I daresay feel much disappointed in Mr Kentish's rejection of the offer to be one of the ministers at Exeter. but we should have felt equal disappointment if he had left us, for he is highly valued and esteemed among us, though for the sake of your family I could have wished him to have accepted the invitation, as I know how much you all would have prized his company and Friendship. have you any other person in view at present? I find your brother John assists in the academy. I wish you may have a minister properly qualified to continue it, but I think if Mr K— had undertaken it his health would not have admitted of the close application necessary to it.—Your Uncle had the misfortune to sprain his foot so bad that he was confined a week to his armchair. Just as he was going his journey to London. it has been a great hindrance to him particularly at this time he is not yet sufficiently recovered to go his journey but hope he will be by the latter end of the week—

Miss Harris is at last come to Birmingham to her Brothers. We dined with them one Sunday when sister Mary was here. I find that James has quite given her up, he got off by saying

his friends disapproved of the connexion, but I think if he had not been tired of it himself, that would have had little weight with him.

Martha's penchant still continues in *statue quo* as you left it we had a letter from her to-day she is in trouble about removing from the old house and seeking a fresh situation. she has some intention of taking another farm in that neighbourhood but has not succeeded yet—Sarah [break for the seal] was with me when I received your letter. she [break for the seal] I would give her love to you when I wrote and say that she would be very glad of your correspondence with her when you were at Leisure which she did not suppose was the case at present, but she would esteem it a favour when you were disposed to write.—I have almost got to the end of my paper without mentioning your friends at Summerhill where you are so often the subject of conversation and of encomium I assure you, you are a great favourite with your *Uncle Tom* and he flatters himself you will some time write to him he said you gave him a *half-promise* I am sure you would find him a punctual correspondent, my sister is now very well and in a fair way of presenting her husband with another darling for his amusement. Little William can almost go alone—I am sure I should have abundance of Love if they knew I was writing to you —I hope your Aunt Weymouth is before this safe in bed, I am sure I pity her for I know how uncomfortable a state of suspense is.—Your Uncle unites with me in kindest Love to your mother, Brothers and Sister particularly John and yourself—Arch. and Rebecca stand by me and desire their love to you and cousin John, and Arch. is much obliged to his cousin for the Pencil he was so kind to send him—he is learning to write and I hope he will be able to use it soon. and now my Dear Lucy farewell and shew that you forgive my long silence by a continuance of your correspondence.

Your ever affectionate
R. KENRICK.

MRS. A. KENRICK TO LUCY

Addressed to Miss Kenrick.

Exeter. Favd. by Mr Isaacks.

My dear Lucy, West Bromwich April 2nd, 1805

It would be unpardonable in me to let the present opportunity pass without answering your kind letter, which should have been done long ago but I confessed my failing to you before and I am not *improved* since I wrote last, but we have an additional motive now for corresponding; your Brother's being here must make it doubly interesting to you. I am happy to say that he is well, and appears very comfortable amongst us he seems rather reserved and shy, but that will wear off when he is better acquainted with us. he is very obliging and attentive and I hope we shall be mutually happy together. we have fitted up the back chamber for him (which used to be the children's room) and Arch. is his bedfellow. I don't know how he will like the *blacks* at the Foundry so different to what he has been accustomed too, but he applys very diligently, and has set to business in earnest this week—. I think the letter he had from home was a great comfort to him he did not expect to have heard so soon.—We had a letter from your Aunt Martha a few days ago they have quite left Wynn Hall, Mary is at Wrexham and she is upon a visit at Mr Parry's at Garstin as soon as she has settled her affairs in that part of the country she means to pay us a visit. she has some intention of going with her brother to London the end of this month or beginning of next, if she does I suppose she will go from thence into Devonshire.—Mr Kentish has taken a house in St. Paul's Square. I think he should take a wife at the same time to keep it for him, but he says he has not time to get married, though he wishes it very much, it is a pity but some good-natured lady would save him the trouble of courtship and wave all ceremony.—there are two weddings in his congregation this week. Mr John Phipson to Miss Smith (Mrs James Ryland's sister) and Mr Joseph

Phipson to Miss Price a great *beauty* whom your Uncle Tom was violently in love with some *six* or *seven* years ago, and was to have had her but for a quarrel between them. Miss Hancox is Miss P's intimate friend and is to be her bridesmaid—we expect it will be a *dashing* wedding.—Miss Finch has been at her Uncle's at Cambridge this winter for several months, she is returned quite the fine lady and not a little affected, her friends think her not at all improved by her visit though she seems to have added much to her own consequence. I have spoke to her but once since she returned she then enquired after you. but I was not pleased with her manner at all, after the attachment she had professed for you.

Mrs. and Miss Harris spent two days with us last week. Miss H. seems to have quite got over her Love fit, she looks very well and very stout now. she has been at Birmingham all the winter and seems in no hurry to go home now. I had been very busy in the garden sowing flower seeds the day they came the sun was warm but the wind cold, and I caught a most violent cold and fever and have been confined to the house a week in consequence of it. I have not seen my sister this fortnight for she has given up going to meeting for the present, it being too far for her to walk. She expects to be confined the middle of this month, and the time approaches near now—[break for the seal] is a very nice Boy as much a *darling* with Pappa [break for the seal] and indeed I think it is well for them both that there is likely to be another; the anxiety of *one* would have been too much for them. I had almost forgot to tell you that Betsey Kenrick is gone to Bristol as Governess in a Mr Palmer's family they are Dissenters and go to Lewinsmead it appears to be a very nice situation for her. she is to have the care of three children and there are three more in the Nursery. She was recommended by her Aunt Mrs R. Savage who is a Bristol woman and acquainted with the lady.—Your Aunt Mary when she came from Exeter brought by mistake a underpetticoat of yours, which I send by your Aunt Martha. I forgot to mention it when I wrote before.—I beg my

love to your Mother and Brothers and sister. The Children unite in love to their Cousins. Yours affectionately

R. KENRICK

Archibald Kenrick and Rebecca Smith had five children, Archibald born in 1798, Rebecca born in 1799, Marianne born in 1801, George Smith born in 1803, and Timothy born in 1807.

John Kenrick was studying with the Revd. John Kentish, minister of the New Meeting.

MRS. A. KENRICK TO LUCY

My Dear Lucy, West Bromwich. Dec. 23rd, 1805

Mr Carpenter's rapid flight through Birmingham had nearly lost me the opportunity of writing to you by him. I had no idea he could have settled affairs so expeditiously and I should have been grieved to have put you to the expence of postage after my unexampled negligence in not writing sooner. I solicited your pardon before for the same offence with promise of amendment in future. I fear you will ere this have lost all confidence in my protestations. I will, therefore, make no more. hoping my future conduct will convince you of my amendment. I am exceedingly obliged to you for a very pretty Habit shirt, which as your work, I prize highly. I assure you it has been very much admired *Uncle Tom* thinks it an elegant pattern and so does my sister. I find the former had a letter from you lately but I have forfeited all claims to that indulgence—Sister Martha has not been to the Brades yet. we were to have gone soon after she came here. but we waited for a moon (that being of great importance in country visits) and it so happened that when the moon would have lighted us Martha was at Bewdley. and then we waited for the next—in the meantime I caught a violent cold, which brought on my Asthmatick cough and I have been confined to the house for more than a month with it and could not possibly pay an evening visit. a morning call was then resolved upon. when we heard Mrs Hunt was gone to Liverpool to settle her sons. It seems as if we were not to meet,

but we mean to make another effort when she returns which was to be this week. Mrs Henry Hunt dined with us the week before last and Mr and Mrs Kentish, Miss Coltman and Mr. J. Kettle. I suppose you have been informed of their *walking expedition*. setting out from hence between seven and eight o'clock in a dark evening and bitter cold, to walk five miles and a half (which it is to their house) and John had the office of carrying a Lanthorn before them. it seems to be the wonder and astonishment of all that have heard it and it is pretty well known. it is rather a new way for a *Bride* to pay her first visits.—Mrs K. and myself were old school-fellows, but we have had very little intercourse since that time. She bore a very amiable character at Stourbridge where she was most known, but the first appearance is not prepossessing except that she looks good-tempered. Mr Kettle and Miss Coltman seem to have a very good *understanding* together it appears as if one wedding would be conducive to *another*.—

My Brother from Norfolk has been over lately it is three years since he was here before and we had a very happy meeting together, as you may suppose after so long an absence. Your Uncle went to Dishley with him to see Rebecca who has been there ever since August and I believe is to stay the winter with her Aunt Honeyborne, she has no children of her own, but is very fond of them, and takes great pains for their improvement. it was with that view that we consented to her long absence, for Arch. had made her so rude before he went to school that she was a compleat *tom boy*. her Father tells me she is much grown and has made great proficiency in her learning. this is her birthday and she is six years old. George gets very stout and Mariann improves fast now, her Aunt has taken great pains with her since she has been here. it is an amusement to her to instruct them. I suppose she will not stay much longer with us and I shall experience a great loss when she goes, for not being able to go out much in the winter it is very dull being so much alone as I am. Samuel is an agreeable addition to our winter circle, and when his Aunt and

him can talk over a little *Exeter* news he seems quite happy. You will think him very much grown when you see him, he appears quite the young man. he seemed very liable to get cold the beginning of the winter which gave us some uneasinys, but he has now got very thick shoes which come above his ankles and seem to answer the purpose of keeping his feet dry and he has not had a cold since wearing them. We have seen but very little of John. Mr Kentish does not like that he should loose time but he is to spend Christmas Day with us. Martha has just had a letter from sister Mary, she is keeping house at Chester and seems impatient for M. to join her—she feels very dull by herself. I fear we shall loose Martha next week she says she must go and join her sister—The fall my Uncle at Bewdley had, might have been of very bad consequence, indeed he does not seem yet to have recovered it, he received an inward strain in endeavouring to get up again, which has been attended with a great deal of pain but Samuel was there last week and says he is tolerably recovered—I am glad to hear you have had so pleasant a visit at your Uncle Weymouth's and suppose you are now settled at your fireside at Exeter for the winter. Your Uncle and Aunt unite with me in love to your mother whom we are happy to hear is well, she is much obliged to her for her kind letter and will write when she gets to Chester—we beg our love also to yourself, sister and Brother. If you *can* forgive me you will write soon in the meantime believe me

affectionately yours

R. KENRICK

P.S. Sister Mary says she has just received a letter from Mrs Eddows and that they are all well, they had a sharp frost in October which entirely put a stop to the yellow fever. they have had the hottest summer they ever experienced since they have been in America. but she bore the heat better than any of the family and her health is much improved. Mrs Boult and her son are likewise very well and he is a very fine child.

MRS. A. KENRICK TO LUCY

West Bromwich, June 2, 1806

My dear Lucy,

Again am I compelled to have recourse to appologys for my long silence, in spite of the determination I had made not to be so culpable in future but having heard yesterday that Mr Pearson is going to Exeter I am happy in having the opportunity of writing by him, and I hope it will not share the fate of my last letter, which by being too late for the conveyance I intended it was obliged at last to go by post.—Your Uncle received a letter from your mother lately in which she was so obliging as to ask me to come to Exeter with your Brothers, but much as I should like it, it will not be practicable this summer. I do not mean to go unless for a short time to Chester. And I hope your sister Mary will accompany her Brothers back to Birmingham and then we shall see her here and can take her with us to Chester if she is to go there this summer as her aunt expected she would; or if she does not go so far it will give us all pleasure to see her here. We expect John to pay us a visit as soon as Mr and Mrs Kentish go their journey and he will remain with us till he and Samuel set out for Exeter. it will be a very joyful time for the latter when that day comes though I have never heard him express himself upon the subject yet the animation of his countenance when it is spoken of shews how happy he will think himself to embrace you all again. I think he is not at all more *communicative* than he was, but his obliging *manners* and amiable disposition have endeared him to us all. I am happy to say that no ill effects have followed the accident his eye met with and the mark is now scarcely discernible.—We went to Dudley last Sunday to hear Mr Howe of Bridport (whom perhaps you know) preach a charity sermon, and he was very happy in making the collection five pounds larger than they had ever had before. Mr and Mrs Bransby set out for Devonshire in three weeks. Mrs B.—is like a school-girl counting the days and hours till the happy time arrives when she is to be

emancipated from Dudley and once more breath the pure air of Dartmoor *forest*. I expect her here next Saturday and am to carry her to Birmingham on Sunday to hear Mr Asplande preach our charity sermon which I hope will be as successful as that at Dudley. My Sister Ryland and her two *darlings* spent the last week with us, you would be delighted with little Frederick he is a sweet little fellow and just a nice age for a plaything. William is a very fine stout Boy and a compleat *Ryland* in his looks, words and actions—his Father delights in teaching him all sorts of tricks which make him very amusing. *Uncle Tom* always enquires very particularly about his niece Lucy and I am sure would send his love if he knew I was writing to her. they are going to leave summer hill and come into the town again as T. finds the distance attended with great inconvenience to his business—it is with reluctance my sister will quit their present house but *business* you know must be attended to—I expect my sister Cumberland and one of her little ones the beginning of July to stay a month with us—I was at Dishley and Leicester about a month ago we went to fetch Rebecca home and were absent six days—I find her quite a little *companion*. I send George and Mariann to school and attend to her myself which I find a very pleasing and useful employment. George is just put in trousers which has improved his appearance very much. he has nearly lost the irruption that has been so troublesome to him and his arm gains strength.—Dr and Mrs Toulmin spent a day with us last week in their way from the Braids and Dudley where they had been to the double Lecture. Miss T. was with them. I have not seen Mrs Kentish this spring except at Meeting at a distance. I must pay them a visit soon as my rambles are confined to the summer. we find our Gigg very useful to us, and we have besides got a mule for your Uncle to ride backwards and forwards to the foundry it will be a very useful little animal and will do for Sam—to ride occasionally instead of walking to B— in the hot weather. I beg my kind regards to your Mother with many thanks for her invitation and

love to Mary and George. If you think such a lazy correspondent worth attending to I hope you will not be long in answering this and believe me though I am so undeserving of it nothing gives me more pleasure than to hear from my friends and my dear Lucy's letters are always acceptable to her affectionate aunt

R. KENRICK

MRS. A. KENRICK TO LUCY

West Bromwich. Dec. 5, 1806

My Dear Lucy,

The date of your letter once more reminds me of my neglected correspondence, which I did intend you should not have reason to complain of again. I must acknowledge it was particularly incumbent on me in the present instance to have written a speedy answer to your last kind letter after Samuel's return and receiving by him a very handsome present of a shawl from your Mother, whose pardon I sincerely beg, for letting so long a time elapse without thanking her for it, it is an article of dress particularly useful to me from the warmth of it exclusive of the fashion which in the present instance happily accords with utility, it has been much admired and I think the pattern remarkably neat—you cannot imagine my Dear Lucy the mortification I have endured from the unpleasant complaint introduced into our family last summer from the school Arch. was at, and which from our ignorance of it spread entirely through the house—had your Brothers escaped I should not have felt half what I did, but to be the means of introducing it into your family, after all the precautions we had taken, was inexpressibly mortifying. my sister Cumberland and her little Boy were with us at the time John was; and they never caught the infection. indeed we believed it entirely eradicated before we admitted him into the house: the consternation which the first letter from Exeter occasioned may be conceived but I will not describe it, but it is now all over and I trust we shall not be visited by such a plague

again.—I enjoyed my journey exceedingly,—and more from the contrast it exhibited to the scenes I had lately witnessed at home. George received considerable benefit from sea-bathing he has quite lost the troublesome irruption he had and his arm is much stronger we have left Arch. at Chester with his Aunts, he goes to a very good day-school there and is I think in the best way for improvement that he can be, for his Aunt Martha pays great attention to him out of school hours and it is something to occupy her mind, which is of so active a turn that she does not feel comfortable in the frivolous life she thinks she leads at Chester, without any pursuit to engage her attention beyond *self* which she has always looked upon as a secondary consideration.—I am happy to hear that your sister Mary is so comfortable at Bristol. I had a letter from your Cousin Betsy last week in which she said that she had just seen her and that they walked part of the way to meeting together on Sundays she spoke of her as being very lively and good-*tempered* always in spirits. Betsy informs me she is going to leave Mrs Palmer at Christmas and means to go home till she hears of a situation to suit her. I expect she will pay us a visit in her way. We intended to have asked your Mother to have allowed Mary to accompany her and spend the vacation with us, but John says she is to go to Exeter and come to see us when she has left school. we should have been very happy to have seen her, though the winter is not the time I could wish [my friends] to come for enjoyment, it would merely be a visit of *charity* for I am so close a prisoner in the winter that I scarcely ever go out, except to meeting on a fine day with the head of the Gig up and the external air excluded as much as possible. the weather has been unusually mild for the season but I have not escaped my cough, though at present I am pretty free from it.—Samuel is very well and applies close to business since his return. he has got a new department, that of seeing to the getting up of some of the orders, which are left entirely to him, it will exercise his memory which is a little defective in *common things*. I am glad to hear that

he enjoyed himself so much when he was at home and exercised his tongue a little. for I am afraid it will grow quite useless here for want of exertion, a monosyllable being chiefly the utterance it gives—I have just seen John, he called in his way from Dudley where he went yesterday to see Mr Bransby, who has been ill of a fever and soar throat, but he is getting better. John stayed but half an hour. he was anxious to reach Bradford Street by dinner, according to promise though he seemed a good deal tired with his walk. he amused me very much with a letter he had just received from Mary, written in high spirits at the thoughts of going home —which she says is quite fixed. I hear you have been at Newhouse lately. it must be a pleasant change to you to go there sometimes as your family circle is small now and you miss Mary's rattle for I should think she would enliven the scene where ever she was.

Marianne desires her love to her Cousin Lucy whom she remembers very well. Rebecca is at school and comes home but once a week these short days. She is rejoicing at the prospect of Christmas holidays. I beg my kind regards to your Mother.

Yours affectionately

R. KENRICK.

RALPH EDDOWES TO THE REV. JOHN KENRICK

July, 1807

"Your Mother writes me on the 27th Feb. that you are still with Mr. Kentish; from which I am led to hope that his health of which you gave so discouraging a report has been restored and confirmed. It seems this is not to prevent your completing your studies at Glasgow, but I presume that *Divinity*, at least in the doctrinal parts of it, is not to come within them, unless my ideas of the creed of a Scotch University be erroneous; but I doubt not there are other branches of science in which you may be employed there to considerable advantage, and I sincerely

wish you may become eminently qualified for supporting that cause which your worthy father had so much at heart."

"Ralph is fully occupied with his farm and John with business in town and their attendance in each could very ill be dispensed with. John says that the correspondence between you and him has not dropped through on *his* part."

MRS. A. KENRICK TO LUCY

Feb. 5th, 1808

My Dear Lucy,

I dare say you have long ere this given me up as a correspondent, and set me down in your own mind as incorrigible; and indeed well you may, for no excuse can I offer adequate to my remissness, I must resort to the old one of not loving letter writing and intreat your forgiveness once more—I saw Samuel on Sunday and he informed me that I had just missed an opportunity of sending to you, Miss Isaacs having lately returned to Exeter. this mortifyed me a good deal but I never saw or heard of her while she was in this part of the country, or should have made a point of availing myself of such an opportunity of conveying a letter to you. Your Brother S.—is so much improved since he has resided in the *enlightened* and *polishing* town of Birmingham that he is not like the same young man he was. he is so smart and so agreable that he is quite metamorphised, but joking apart, he looks very well and seems quite happy in his situation. My Sister meets him sometimes at her Father's, and says how very much he is improved—but I suppose you will have an opportunity of judging for yourself as he intends going to Exeter in the Spring and I hear he is to bring his sister Mary back with him to visit his friends in this part of the world. I am sure it will give us great pleasure to see her here for I long to see you again and Mary though a stranger to me, I have heard so much of, that she seems familiar to my imagination. Mrs. Osler has said a great

deal of her, and she flatters me by saying that Rebecca resembles her cousin, in person, and quite reminded her of your sister. I speak of Mrs Osler as if personally acquainted with her, but we have never had an interview yet for she came to Birmingham at a time when I was confined to the house by the severity of the weather and could not go to see her, and indeed I have been to town but twice the whole winter, but she is very intimate with my Sister and the Rylands, and it was from her I have heard what I know of her, and Rebecca has been at her Aunt's and seen her there. I hear she is a very pleasant woman and want to see her much but I don't know when I shall, for I hear she expects to be confined in March and of course cannot go out much—We think Dr and Mrs Toulmin make a long stay in your part of the country. when they go from home they seem in no hurry to get back again. I should think Mr Kentish would be glad to be relieved, for preaching twice a day seems to fatigue him a good deal. I wish he had as strong a constitution as his wife for nothing would ever hurt her, and she gets so fat that she is quite a droll figure looking broader than she is long.—*Sally my dear* enjoys herself very much in her Father's and Mother's absence she is either visiting out or has her parties at home and is the gayest of the gay, with as little thought or reflection as falls to the share of most young people. Miss Finch is just returned home after an absence of six months. she has been on a visit to Mrs Barbould and has been highly gratified with it and with the literary society she was introduced to there. I think she will find *home* rather flat after the attention she has met with and the compliments I hear she has had paid her upon her superior *cleverness* etc. but she says she is very glad to come back again and descend to *common* life—her second brother is here at present in Samuel's department.—We had a very pleasing account of your Brother John from Bewdley about a fortnight ago. he had written to his Uncle just after his visit to Dr. Woodrows and gave such an account of his reception there as highly delighted them. his Uncle Archd. had a letter from him

written upon his Journey and last Sunday he heard another account of him from Mr Corrie who had a letter from Mr Belsham in which he says that he had had a very favourable account of John from Professor Young in which he says that he went through his examination with the highest credit to himself. but you most likely are acquainted with these circumstances, but they are so gratifying to his friends here that I cannot resist mentioning them and I know it will give you pleasure to hear so pleasing a report from distant quarters—We had a letter from Chester a few days ago, your Aunt Mary had been spending her Christmas at Wrexham and Martha had had two young ladies from Mrs Nichols' school to stay the holidays with her. Arch. was very glad of some young companions and they enjoyed themselves exceedingly and were very happy together but he has since then had an attack of Fever which alarmed his Aunt a good deal, and, of course, his parents, but in her last letter she says he is quite recovered, and relieved us from the anxiety we were in on his account.—I must not conclude my letter without giving you some idea of my little Timothy (for that is his name alone and solely) and thanking his Aunt for her present to him, which I am ashamed to say I have not acknowledged before—it is put by for him till he is of an age to know the value of the gift and the bestower of it. my most ardent wishes for him is that he may emulate the virtues of the *excellent man* whose name he bears and if mildness of disposition and infantine goodness are fair prognostications of future amiableness he certainly has a favourable habit of mind for planting the seeds of virtue—he is very delicate in his appearance but remarkably lively, and with all these qualifications you may suppose he is no small favourite amongst us.—Reb. and Marian are gone to school and return but once a week for the winter quarter, so I have only George and Timothy who are my little companions.—I have had a better winter than the last which I attribute to being a Nurse as that always agrees with me, but I have been obliged to keep house very close to avoid the

effects of the cold winds which are so baneful to me. I am recommended to ride single or use all the exercise I can, which I am going to put in practice as soon as the weather will permit. Mrs Hancox is going to reside at Chester and has taken a house there, its being a cheap place and near Liverpool where her sons are settled are the inducements to her removing there. She leaves Birmingham to-day with her daughter. I beg my kindest regards to your Mother and love to Mary and George. Pray let me hear from you soon and believe me

affectionately yours

REB. KENRICK.

P.S. When you see Elizabeth pray give my love to her and tell her now I have made an effort to write into Devonshire, in all probability she may have a letter soon. I am sure I am many in her debt.

[Mrs. Archibald Kenrick died in 1809.]

ARCHIBALD KENRICK TO MRS. TIMOTHY KENRICK

Dear Sister

I have not been able to see Mr. Grove to communicate Mr. Weymouths opinion respecting binding Samuel tho' I have called every day I have been to town since his return but as he was to set out on Wednesday for America I desired Samuel to do it, in his own uncertain state he can't expect anything sister [?] from you we hear of no stopage of payment from America here and therfore hope Bro. Eddowes is mistaken in his apprehension upon that head, wood it be advisable to plan it in the name of an American citizen in trust as I hear has been done by Erskine from American papers. I congratulate you upon the handsome report of Professor Young's of John's examination to your Bro: I hope when Cousin Mary comes to us in the summer she will proportion her stay to the distance at least if we can make it agreable to her

in this northern region. It will afford us grate pleashure to be able to do it. I am glad to observe Samuel's situation seems to suit him better than mine. With affectionate regards to Lucy.

A.K.

SAMUEL KENRICK OF BEWDLEY TO HIS GREAT-NEPHEW JOHN

Bewdley, 3rd May, 1808

My dear Nephew,

I return you my best thanks for your very kind and entertaining favour of the 8th of Jany wch was most acceptable & interesting to us on many accounts. I make no apology for not acknowledging it sooner as I had nothing to communicate to you worth your notice & did not wish to interrupt your multifarious most important studies, by seeming to solicit an answer from you. But now as your literary campaign is drawing near to a close I expect the pleasure of hearing from you when convenient, when you will be so kind as to favour me with a retrospect of your various pursuits, with any other occurrences you please.

Your visiting Dr Woodrow, & his and Miss Woodrow's kind attention to you made us very happy. Their regard for you is equally cordial for I have had the pleasure of hearing from him often since with the good news that the books and apples had at last arrived, not without some injury, particularly to the latter, from the lateness of the season occasioned by various impediments.

I am much obliged to Professor Richardson, wch you will be so good as tell him, for his generous attention to you, especially when you had taken a decided part against his friends at the election of a Rector magnificus. My friend Dr. Woodrow and I acted the same childish part, as we have thought so ever since, for I was but a foolish child at the former election, the decision of wch was of much more consequence to the honour of the University, as well as to the most important cause of rational

religion & literature for George Bogle of Daldowie, against whose election we voted, by his casting vote in the Faculty, brought D^r^ Leechman into the Divinity Chair, so justly celebrated for his introduction of a greatly improved method of theological instruction similar to what his friend M^r^ Hutcheson had introduced into the departments of Metaphysics and Ethicks in the same seminary, some years before. One great improvement was, the delivering their lectures in english, from a latin text, instead of what Cicero, or Quintilian would have called (if they had had a word corresponding to it) dog-latin, w^ch^ was continued to my time in the Logic & Metaphysicks class, during the life of Mess John Loudon as he was called. With the grave solemn air, lank figure and palid countenance of a profound puritan professor, this venerable sage, slowly moved to his desk, & having pronounced a short prayer, he came down to the arena, w^ch^ he quarter-decked, as a sailor w^d^ say, in a slow solemn pace most fluently haranguing his audience in that language for near an hour. But to return to my childish folly—the gentleman whom we supported, was then actually a student lodged in the College w^th^ his Tutor, James Moore, soon after professor of Greek, viz Dunbar Hamilton afterwards Earl of Selkirk, father of the present Earl.—he was an accomplished gentleman & scholar. And my friend D^r^ W, as he has just told me, was a relation of M^r^ Bogle! But the Doctor will tell you the particulars of a much more important contest between aristocracy and democracy, so long ago as 1726, in w^ch^ the latter finally triumphed.

The account you have given of the flourishing state of our Alma Mater is to me highly gratifying. Any farther particulars will always be most acceptably received. M^r^ Muirhead's name I do not find in the Redbook list of professors. But I was well acquainted with a professor of that name who was praedecessor to M^r^ Richardson in the Humanity Class [litterae humaniores—belles-lettres] who was also a profound greek (originally a minister) scholar, who w^th^ Professor Moore, bestowed great pains in

correcting Foulis' editions of the Greek Classics, particularly their Fol. Homer, of w^ch^ we were told, it is correct to the minutest particle. Apropos of Foulis (w^ch^ D^r^. W. will explain to you) tell the D^r^ that our ever-to-be esteemed Professor Rosse, paid particular attention to the Latin Classics, but most of all to that vol. of Cicero's works in 18^mo^., De Oratore, to w^ch^ he has added notes at the end, and corrections in the text from an ancient MS.

While we heartily rejoice to hear that you met so soon w^h^ so many friends, I cannot help feeling regret and disappointment! what a dead blank Scotland would now be to me when compared with what it was for 20 years, during w^ch^ period there were three most respectable families, all my Mother's relations, where I was always received w^th^ the cordial smiles of welcome & much more made of than at my father's house. Last month's Athenaeum announced to me the death of M^rs^ Brisbane, mother of M^rs^ Jeffray, the last of our relations, who was, when we visited Scotland in 1743, the youngest of 5 daughters of Robt. Paterson of Craigton, Gent^n^. M^r^ Davidson is the same relation to us as M^rs^ Jeffray was. Principal D. his father was fellow student w^th^ me in the Logic class, w^th^ whom I lived long after in the most intimate terms. Had he and his wife been alive you would certainly have met w^th^ from them, every mark of kindness and hospitality. But time—time wears out everything! Excuse a little anecdote w^ch^ Loudon's Logic remind me of, John Chetwood, a giddy youth from Wellington, Somerset, in the midst of a grave sombre lecture starts suddenly from his form (seat) and crosses over to the opposite side of the lecture room, w^ch^ put a dead stop to the lecture. When after a short pause Professor Loudon calmly said "Eia! Joannes quid tibi vis, cur turbas nos?' The scholar bluntly answered "Alexander Adam (pointing to the person whose side he had left) scotico morbo laborat!". The professor replied, "Joannes, Joannes, tu stultitia laboras, nescio an sit morbus anglicanus" & then resumed his lecture. The number of scholars far exceed what they were in my time. You

have more in your logic class than were in all the University in my time. M^r^ Jardine's method I admire much. It must be a very proper rough shop as you consider it, preparatory to your future advancements in the boundless fields of knowledge. The early habits of writing and reading publickly,—are invaluable blessings, unknown and unpractised in my time. When I attended pupils at Glasgow in 1754 ^etc.^ M^r^ Clew introduced themes on moral sentences towards the latter part of the sessions & D^r^ Adam Smith introduced the same in the Ethic class w^th^ one Oration in latin delivered by each scholar, the subject given by the master. And on every Saturday an Oration in latin at the choice of the speaker was pronounced in the College hall.

[The rest of this letter is missing.]

SAMUEL KENRICK OF BEWDLEY TO JOHN KENRICK AT GLASGOW

Bewdley, 16^th^ June 1808

Dear Cousin

You made us very happy by the present of the Glasgow Courier of the 3^rd^ ult^o^. w^ch^ recalled to my memory many dormant associations of the names of persons & places formerly most familiar to me, but still more as it contained the most interesting information respecting the flourishing state of my venerable Alma Mater w^th^ such a numerous promising progeny among whom you have made so eminent a figure. What a spur is this to your future improvement! And you have made us still much happier by your entertaining patagonian epistle of the 30^th^ ult^o^ w^ch^ favour we hope you will continue to follow up, when you have nothing better to do, w^th^ such future frequent communications as you may be sure will always afford us the highest satisfaction. Therefore once for all, never think of the trifle of 11/- postage, for near 300 miles when we pay here 4^d^ for 3 miles & double & treble that sum if not single. We long to hear of your Highland

excursion to Mull etc. I know part of the route from Glasgow by Dumbarton to Inverary and have read Johnson & Boswell's Tour—wth that of a lively French philosopher who, not getting admittance into the grand Hotel at Inverary, it being the Assizes, stated his case to the late Duke of Argyle, who immediately sent his eldest son to invite him to the Castle, where he was most politely received by a large company of the first rank of ladies & gentlemen, who to his great astonish^{t}. spoke the french language w^{h} parisian ease & elegance. Thus french philosophers as well as princes have been unexpectedly honoured wth noble british hospitality. But now for your letter. Many thanks for its commendable quantity as well as its admirable quality. *Great alterations* indeed have taken place since my time in the number of Professors, of students & of new regulations, or more properly improvements w^{ch} I hope will continue in these as they do in the general course of things. For if they meet wth occasional checks it is only to rise again wth greater vigour—il faut reculer pour mieux sauter—The mode of giving prizes for superiour merit was entirely unknown in my time. In D^{r} Hutcheson's time (who died in 1746) they had a few meetings on saturday morning in the common-Hall, before the general assembly of all the gown-students (at nine o'clock) in w^{ch} the Ethic & Magistrand classes held formal disputations for ab^{t}. an hour, in w^{ch} different Theses were proposed by him in Latin & syllogistically maintained or disproved, the worthy Professor sitting Judex Litis, pronounced sentence and proposed new Theses for future discussion. D^{r} Woodrow, I believe, must have assisted at the last of these meetings and can give you a more particular acct: of them. In 1745/6 we were all assembled in the greek class Hall. Hence you will see how small our number was when compared to what you now are—but it was at a very critical time.

I do not question the validity of your argument against the multiplying of the prizes, w^{ch} must diminish the intrinsic value of each: but at the same time I cannot help feeling a great

pleasure in seeing so many individuals possessed of moderate abilities but good natural dispositions, made happy, as well as their naturally partial, mothers & relatives by this honourable distinction bestowed upon them by their respectable instructors. For this reason I was glad to find Class IV so numerous & many of them natives of Glasgow—not fewer than 8 in 18. This is a pleasing presumption in favour of a liberal & elevated spirit w^{ch} must prevail in a town created by commerce & carried by it to the highest pitch of prosperity. I complimented Professor Richardson, at Bewdley, on this improvement, when he told me that it was attended wth its inconveniency—that many fond mothers were offended at seeing their sons overlooked. But for my own part I look upon these early regular habits as the foundation & surest pledges of future wisdom & good conduct. But why are many of the names of this class *only*, written in Capitals? I should be glad to know in what do the prizes consist in money? or Books? or in What? I give you joy in having acquired one good new word to our english Dictionaries—*compete!*—having already its derivative substantives competition & competitor. Your definition of Fine-Writing is hyper-pedantic! It puts me in mind of what our unpolished Aristarchus said to D^{r} Blair—upon the latter's apologizing for not paying his respects to him sooner, saying it was owing to *a complaint in his eyes* "What is that I hear Sir"—said the former interrupting him—"a Professor of Rhetoric in this metropolis guilty of such a solecism—to call a disorder in his eyes of w^{ch} he complained—*a complaint in his eyes!*"

I am happy to find that you have met wth such a friend as D^{r} Young to improve your proficiency in greek—particularly in the subtil niceties of that elegant language. You mention the middle voice, the precise meaning of w^{ch} was undiscovered till the beginning of the last century, when it was first published by Kuster a german critic and by our most excellent D^{r} Sam^{l}. Clarke in his notes in the beginning of the 1st book of Homer's Iliad.

And what is most remarkable it escaped the notice of Henry Stephens, the most accomplished greek scholar, as his greek Lexicon testifies, who wrote at the same time a treatise in french, to prove the close correspondence between the greek and french languages without discovering that the french reciprocal verbs (as they are called) coincide exactly wth the greek verbs in the middle voice. This fact I learned from Professor James Moore—a most accomplished scholar, & to me a kind and generous friend to whom I am under the greatest obligations.

But I am running away from you—nobody knows where. I wrote this hasty scrawl to meet you at Glasgow on your return from Mull, before you proceed to our worthy friends D^{r} & Miss Woodrow. We are not a little disappointed that you have never met wth any of our once near, but as it w^{d} now appear, our most distant relatives and friends. At Paisley we had a M^{rs} Robert Fulton & at the Park in the Parish of Erskine, M^{rs} W^{m} Fulton & at Blackston n^{r} Paisley, M^{rs} Napier, widow of Alex^{r} Napier Es^{qr}, all in the same relation to us, descendants of my kindest of friends the rev. Rob^{t} Millar, minister of Paisley & Henry Millar, minister of Nielston—Next we should be [interested] to hear the present state of politics and religious sent[iments]. My friend D^{r}. Woodrow's sentiments I know well. They are quite in unison with my own, being derived from the liberal Hutcheson and the equally liberal and profound D^{r} Leechman. I have no particular news to tell you. We are all, thanks to kind Providence, in our usual comfortable circumstances & most humbly unite in our warmest wishes for the continuance of your health and prosperity.

Your affect^{te} Uncle

Sam^{l}. Kenrick.

Write to us as soon
& as often as you can
conveniently.

Vos nouvelles seront toujours bien venues.

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK TO HIS SISTER LUCY

1810

"Samuel writes me word that Uncle Archibald is going to London I hope it is a sign of his having recovered the shock of Miss B's cruelty, or at least that it will help him to do so. I am very sorry for his failure, not only as he has lost an amiable woman, but as it may deter him from a second attempt. It is very necessary for his comfort that he should get another wife & yet certainly there is something in his manner that does not particularly qualify him for adventures of this kind. Perhaps in the commotion of his visit he did not find time to tell you that when he was last in Wales he got Uncle James, with much less difficulty than he expected, to make his will. He has left the Shropshire estate among *us* & the rest of his property equally divided among his nephews & nieces. I hear nothing more about his marriage."

[In May 1812 Archibald Kenrick married Mary Eddowes, daughter of Joshua Eddowes of Shrewsbury.]

RALPH EDDOWES TO MRS. T. KENRICK, NÉE BELSHAM

Jan. 1811

"I have just read yours of 23rd. Sept. John's and Lucy's letters both come to hand. The former I have answered. You rightly judge I feel much interest in the standing John and George are likely to take in the Literary world. The high enconium of Professor Mylne and the Academic honours conferred are no doubt well merited, but it will add much to the pleasure they give me to be assured that there is nothing to be apprehended of that danger to which *young minds* in such circumstances are exposed. I confess that the strain of John's letter excited some fear of this kind and occasioned my answering it with more coolness than I otherwise wished to do. I mentioned to him my hopes that before he or his brothers settled in the world, they would favour

us with a visit. Literary people should if possible obtain a little actual knowledge of the world. which their books cannot furnish."

SAMUEL KENRICK SON OF TIMOTHY TO HIS SISTER LUCY

1811

I have written to John respecting what my mother says, advising me rather to accept a good salary from my uncle as a clerk in preference to being taken into partnership & I have not yet heard from him, I am decidedly in favour of the partnership as the difference between what my uncle would chuse give and what I should receive as a partner would be very great. It is impossible to go into business without some risque, but I see very little in the present case. If Mary is return'd from Lyme thank her for her long letter to me from that place.

John had receiv'd an invitation to preach as a candidate to Mr. Lewins congregation in Liverpool which he immediately declin'd. He says that Mardon is a young man of very good abilities which I am very glad to hear. George was very well then. As he is going to spend part of his Christmas at Rhuabon, I have thought it right to talk to him on the cruelty of raising expectations which he does [not] mean to fulfil and I have cautioned him so repeatedly that I hope can now trust him even at Ruthin.

Your Birmingham correspondent may have inform'd you that Sarah Smith has at length consented to receive the addresses of that stupid looking John Hurford. Last spring she turn'd up her nose at him & said "do you think I'll have him, he is not clever enough for me." Then poor man he was overwhelm'd with despair the letter which Mary wrote for him was consign'd to the flames as soon as it was read and a strong suspicion fell upon me as the author of it. Was it for this that she spent so much time to learn Latin? that she might be able to construe a physician's prescription or to read the label on the glass jars in the shop. Oh Sarah Smith, Sarah Smith!

But Mr. Hurford had her father and mother on his side during the whole attack and I suppose they have persuaded her to it. There another piece of news which I can tell you. James Russell pays his respects to Sarah Hawkes and is graciously receiv'd. may now go to Mosely without raising my aunt Martha's fears. Catharine Francis is going to be married to John Lee [?], Eliz Ryland to a Mr. Brook & Miss Witton to Mr. Tyndall a lawyer. Here are no less than five young ladies of my acquaintance going off all at once. I was at Mr. Kentish's on Sunday and he desir'd me to remind my mother that she had almost promisd to pay him a visit in the Spring I understood from George that it was settled so, & I shall be very much disappointed if I do not see my mother then. Within the last ten days I have been often wishing that you all livd in Birm– & thinking how much I should enjoy your society on a Sunday. I wish my mother to come to Birm^{m} in the spring that she may see that it is preferable in many respects to Exeter, and if my brothers settle in any part of *England* she will not be more than a days journey from them and I should have the pleasure of her society often instead of once in two years as in the case now. Your young friends at Exeter are all gone away and I do not think you have a great many *old* ones. I have told you before how much I wish you to live nearer, indeed if you liv'd in Birm^{m} Bromwich would be no longer Bromwich to me. I am not acquainted with one with whom I can have any *cozy* friendly chat with.

My uncle is looking out for a situation similar to that in which I was for Sam^{l} Kenrick of Whitchurch who is just out of his time. He has been five years apprentice to a corvisor during the whole of which he has been employ'd at mere manual labour, so that he knows very little of writing & accompts or of business in general. It was a great pity that he should have been put into such a situation.

I have now written you a full sheet of my uncles Imperial Post & have nothing more to say but that all who now sit round

our parlour fire unite with me in love to my mother, Mary and yourself and that I remain

Yours affectionately
Sam[l] Kenrick.

FROM THE REV. JOHN KENRICK

York. June 13th. 1811

"Mr. & Mrs. Boult & Ralph Eddowes are arrived in England. I shall be glad to see them. Ralph is come, I suppose, to look for a wife among the daughters of the land. I hope Congress will not include wives among their non-importable articles."

[Mrs. Boult was a daughter of Ralph Eddowes and Sarah Kenrick, and mother of Mr. Peter Boult of Liverpool, and his sisters Fanny, Mary and Lucy. Miss Lucy Boult died in 1912, aged 95.]

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK TO HIS SISTER MARY

York. Sept. 26. 1811

"I left Chester on Tuesday morning, having *assisted* the evening before at a party of about 30 people at Aunt Parry's. Your friends, the Nicholls' were amongst the number, and Miss N. said she meant to write to you to press upon you making a visit to Mrs. Holland notwithstanding her husband's refusal to let her come & see you when she was in Exeter. Mr. & Mrs. P. entertained us very hospitably, & I was glad to find their school good. Mr. P. is very much improved since his marriage."

"I have not written to you, I think, since I was at Bewdley. I found my uncle in a very weak state, so weak that he could not bear us to be with him for any length of time together. His immediately alarming complaint was gone, but I should very much fear from his symptoms of weakness that he cannot hold out long. Miss Woodrow is very well. It is a great thing in favour of my uncle's comfort & chance of ultimate recovery that Miss W. is in the house & devotes herself so much to him; for

she is skilled in an art of wch. the good ladies of the family are wofully deficient; the art of watching the symptoms & providing the minute accommodations of an Invalid."

"Miss Woodrow appeared to be in pretty near her usual spirits. Her coming has made the good people give up some of their huggermugger ways. The grounds are no longer put back into the teapot between each cup, tho' they are still faithfully collected at the end for the behoof of the maid. They have two servants, they have painted their little parlour, & the arbour in the garden. It will be well if the change holds; for could Miss W. see them as they used to be, the opposition between her habits & ideas & theirs must make her very uncomfortable."

"Samuel & I, with Ch. Eddowes & Thomas Stevenson, spent two or three very pleasant days at Wynnehall. I suppose Samuel has anticipated me, or I would tell you a long story how we had a dance, which almost laid us up for several days with fatigue, how we went upon my uncle's cattle to see Chirk & Llangollen, & how I was rolled off from Sparkler along a turnpike road, & how Tom Stevenson drove his blind mare Maggot against a heap of lime & was pitched upon his head into it, till he looked whiter than any miller, &c. But of course Samuel has made you laugh till your sides are sore with this already, so I will not repeat your convulsions. My uncle & aunt were very hospitable, & our cousins very agreable. I hope they have accommodated their differences: at least they were prudent enough to keep them to themselves if they still exist. They are to have a daughter of Mr. Twiss as a boarder, which they think a great thing on account of the connexion. The young lady herself is not particularly to be coveted as a scholar; for she has been both spoild & neglected at home. I do not find that they have any other boarder promised. Their day scholars are 20."

[Mrs. Parry was "Aunt Martha." She married the Revd. James Parry who had come to the school at Wrexham on the recommendation of the Revd. T. Kenrick.]

Samuel Kenrick of Bewdley died on 5th October, 1811. He was buried in Ribbesford churchyard and a very substantial four-square monument was erected over his grave. The inscription describes him as "a native of Wynn Hall in the county of Denbigh, and one of the capital burgesses of the Borough of Bewdley." The inscription ends thus: "The remembrance of his intellectual attainments, eminent virtues and Christian piety will long survive this frail memorial erected by his affectionate widow."

His daughter Mary died on May 24th, 1812.

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK TO MARY

York. Dec. 24th. 1811

"I had a *barndoor* of *barndoors* from my cousin of Bewdley containing a sketch of my uncle's life which I had requested, in order that I might draw up a memoir from it. I have done so, altho' the sketch itself gave me very little matter that I could use, being filled with particulars too minute for what I intended & deficient in those facts where I wished for information. For this reason the memoir is not what I could have wished. I sent it to her the beginning of this month desiring her to forward it to Aspland. I do not know what she & my Aunt will think of me for having said nothing in it about disconsolate widows & affectionate daughters, but after what Samuel wrote me of their —— behaviour while he was dying, the promise of being her heir should not have induced me to put in a syllable respecting them. I never heard anything so unfeeling & disgraceful. After toiling all his life to leave his daughter a handsome fortune, to be denied on his deathbed, the commonest comforts of a sick room. And then my cousin's hypocritical cant about her beloved parent, whom she had every thing but pushed out of the world. What a scene for a woman of Miss Woodrow's generous affectionate temper! I understand she means before she leaves Bewdley to give my cousin a thorough lecture upon her behaviour & I daresay this visit will be about the termination of their friendship. I foresaw how it would be, though of course I had no anticipation

of an event which should show my cousin's character so completely, nor did I indeed think, selfish as I knew her to be, that she could have treated her father as she has done. Take care this letter never gets into her hands. I send you her sketch as it may perhaps amuse you. She has requested me to write an inscription for his tombstone "the shorter the better" is her only direction about it."

SAMUEL KENRICK TO HIS SISTER

1812

My dear Lucy.

You would no doubt be shock'd to hear of the sudden death of my cousin, for though I never felt so indignant at the conduct of any one as at her's to her father, but the thought that she is now gone to answer for her conduct before the bar of God, has chang'd my indignation into pity. In the common course of things she had a prospect of living many years to enjoy her wealth, but she had scarcely taken possession of it when she was called upon to leave it.

She bore her illness which was accompanied with a great pain in her side with a patience and resignation which I should not have expected from her. Mrs. Bennit says that she was quite a pattern of patience and that she conceal'd her illness from her mother as much as she could for fear of distressing her. She was buried the day before yesterday at Ripsford in my uncles vault.

You will see by the copy of the will which I have sent you that she has left me one thousand pounds and a Public house which lets for about £17 pr annum which may be worth about £300. I was very much surprizd at it, as I thought I was of late no favourite of hers as I never agreed with her in her covetous opinions when she spoke about money matters. She has left a thousand pounds to be divided between my brothers, Mary and you. I was wrong in that account that I sent my mother

respecting the other will, my uncle gave me the information, it seems he misunderstood my aunt. The true statement is this. My aunt was very much dissatisfied at my cousin having left me more than my brothers & sisters and was continually shewing her the injustice of it. She wishd to take £500 from my legacy and give it either to Mary & you, or George or my uncle John's daughters. However for three weeks my cousin would not agree to it, at length she appointed to have the will altered and to leave the £500 to my uncle John's 5 daughters. My aunt sent for the lawyer (who is appointed one of the Executors) and gave him instructions to make a new will, he brought it the next day (Friday) but my cousin told him she could not talk about business then, he must come some other time. Early on Sunday morning she died. My aunt had been talking constantly to Sarah & my uncle Arch^{d} & my uncle John about it & said that as my cousin intended to have done differently she should call upon me to give up. This put me in a very awkward situation, for I could perceive my uncle John and Sarah look'd blue at me. The Lawyer (Executor) however inform'd us that as he had receivd no instructions from my cousin respecting any alteration, my aunt directions amounted to nothing at all. That he should pay the money to me and then I might do what I likd with it.

My uncle Arch suggested to my aunt that as she would have between 2 & 3 thousand pounds, residue she would have ample means to make up the inequality in the distribution, but this did not satisfy the old lady. However she did not mention the subject to me at all. The lawyer said that he would speak to her & lay the matter quite at rest. I find from Mrs. Bennit, as well as from my aunts own account that she was continually teasing my cousin to alter it, but Mary was quite obstinate.

My cousin told Mrs. Bennit that her mother was not satisfied, but that she had always intended to leave me more than the rest as I was a favourite of hers and calld after my uncle. I was at Bewdly last Sunday fortnight, and Mrs. B said to me several

times "I am so glad that you are come" she explaind to me yesterday what she meant, for she thought my visit would prevent my cousin from making the alteration which my aunt wanted to have. At first I was not satisfied myself with regard to the propriety of keeping it, but when I found from these circumstances that my aunt had teasd my cousin into a compliance with her wishes contrary to what had always been her determination, I had no doubt in my mind whatever for it seems to have been her original intention, that my aunt did tease her into an alteration or conveiancing. As my uncle John has a thousand pounds left him it is nearly the same as if left to his daughters. I am afraid that the folks at Rhuabon will not be satisfied with me but I have been guided by my uncles opinion and my own judgment. I should like to know what my mother and you think of it. The question is one of equity not of Law—As there has been nothing said to me on the subject I have given no answer. My uncle John will be here to night and I will speak to him about it. I should wish to have the business settled.

My love to my mother and Mary

Yours in haste

Sam Kenrick.

THE SUBSTANCE OF MISS KENRICK'S WILL DATED 20th APRIL, 1812

To Mrs. Kenrick the Interest of the whole for her life and after her death she gives the following Legacies.
To my first Cousins Robert Martin, Alexander Martin and Ann their sister £1000 each.
To my first cousins John Kenrick & Sarah Eddowes £1000 each.
To first cousins M. Parry & Mary Kenrick £500 each.
To John, George, Lucy & Mary four of the children of Tim^{y} Kenrick £1000 to be equally divided between them.

To my Cousin Arch Kenrick	£1000
To „ „ Sarah Heywood	£1200
To „ „ Eliz Hickman	£1200
To Edw[d] son of John Kenrick this the lad in America	100
To Mrs. Stevenson	21
To Miss Woodrow	200
To Mrs. George Russell	100
To Miss Roberts	21
To Miss Radnall	100
To my Executors	100
To Sam[l] Kenrick one other son of Tim[y] Kenrick	1000
and freehold Messuage in Bewdley calld the Blue Ball about £300	300

The Residue about £2500 to be at the disposal of Mrs. Kenrick.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK TO HIS DAUGHTER REBECCA, ENDORSED BY HER "MY FATHER TO ME AT SCHOOL."

West Brom. 3rd Sept. 1813

Dear Rebecca

At ten at night you will not expect a long or interesting letter from your tired Father. Samuel is just returned from Exeter and is to-day gone to London the autom journey he goes down the middle of October to fetch Lucy your Aunt spending the winter in London with Mr Belsham—he and Mr Welbeloved preacht for us on Sunday and George at Kingswood so it was a grand day I saw Mr Welby at Mr Kentish and Mr K. Introduct Arch. to him. he will go with your cousin John on the 23rd for York he is writing a theme this evening and therefore has no time to write you. Mr G. gives him hard work now to prepare him—your cousin Mary is to be married on the 8th and will

be in London on the fifteenth there is a report of the distemper having affected one of your Ruabon cousins but I will not report her untill its declard an incurable malady—I shall be obliged to Miss Byerly to buy you a portfolio your mother will send you all your other wants. the rabbits do very well and there shall be two rabbits kept for you untill Xmas—if you wish to write most elegant that is most naturall read the Spectator that is the kind of elegance I wish you to excell in put down what comes first into your head but speak it over first to yourself that the arrangement be clear and without tautology of expression—and as I value your correspondence I wish to have my paper well filled less blank space—I had a letter from your cousin Sarah she desires to be affectionately remembered to you and Mary and will write you soon they have 15 Borders and 49 in all—I am now becoming anxious how your spunge medison agrees with you in the first place and then whether there are any favourable simptoms of its good effect we are obliged to you for the account of your employ but now you have had some experience I shall be glad to hear something of your experience of the employment of your time. I know I need not urge you to diligence but I now expect the exercise of your understanding in your employment of your time that is that the most be made of your diligence by well considering and understanding all you learn—we intend going with Mr and Mrs Bowman to the Leasos to-morrow they leave us on Monday—I past over my examination very well but we did not get our tryall we had to hard swearing against us. Love to Maryan

Your affectionate father

A. KENRICK

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK TO MARY

17 October 1815

"What took me to Liverpool was a desire to make inquiries jointly with Mr. Parry, about the prospect of opening a school there, he being about to leave Chester—but this is not to be talked of. Mr. Yates & others whom we consulted, seemed to think there was a good opening for a preparatory school but for no other. I do not know what the final determination is."

"My visit to Chester was made melancholy by the gloom which the news of Mrs. Eddowes death threw over Mrs. Parry's spirits. She was however exceedingly friendly—the only thing one has to complain of there is, that they put themselves too much out of the way to entertain one. That's not a fault to be found at Uncle James's who however was very friendly too. He has a large magnificent uncomfortable house not painted not furnished not carpeted, full in short of all manner of discomforts & contrivances for catching cold."

In 1816 Archibald Kenrick went for a tour on the Continent in company with his son Archibald and Mr. Stevenson (the father of Sarah and Thomas). The following letters were written to his wife. Evidently he wrote portions every few days and posted when opportunity offered. The original spelling has been kept, and it looks as if he had written in a hurry, but his spelling was never very good. He put no stops to speak of, so punctuation has been added for the assistance of the reader. He kept a notebook and in it are observations on the soil and vegetation of the countries he passed through, with comments on the different methods of agriculture; and there is also an account of a visit to Waterloo where they were conducted over the battlefield by a guide who gave much information. Though this is interesting there is nothing in it of sufficient note to make the publication necessary.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK TO HIS WIFE

Rouen Saturday 25th May 1816

Wednesday I wrote you from Diep which my landlord promised to send by packet to Brighton as I did sister parry promising her that Rebecca should report from mine how I went

on. We contrived to get outside the Diligence 2 in ȳ Cabriole in front one with ȳ conductor on top. there clumsyness is not exagirated but we came ȳ 30 miles here in ab^{t} 5 Hours the postilion rides on one of ȳ shaft or pole horses which with the other is stronger as they have to stay the Carage going down hill wch is very well doine consider[in]g the weight of there carage it being more in weight than our covered waggons. He has rains to the 3 abrest before him, his business is well done, horses good in good condition but miserable harness, the road upon high ground for ȳ first part very good nearly as brode as our Birm roads flint country open field, and like in all respects to Oxfordshire except ȳ beach is very often planted in Rows of three and four occtionly Oak all lopt, a few Elms the road side plant^{d} with apple trees a grate portion of these apparently since the revolution xceedingly well headed and full of blossom; vegitation rather forwarder but as with us a very backward season, all ȳ cottages have yong apple trees very thickly set but small gardens inferior to ours; as it was assention all business was suspended & we met many people going in there best cloths to Diep as well drest as english of the same class. the first 15 miles was xcellently cultivated & good crops the middle part infer^{or} in cultivation & quality as it was fog we could not see far. . . . . Rouen is larger than Birm but much closer built, you must judge of the appearance of streets of from 6 to 8 & 9 yards wide and every House about the height of our theater the shops here are small many open windows the silversmiths and chaney shops make some show & glass shops & often a great mixture of goods the drapers and Mercers make no show as with us all have much the appearance of stores, women very frequently serve^{g} and as women are the most efitient persons the man the secondary person as our landlord, he went to market eat drank & slept & if may judge of there eating at the table de hote of our house they exceed John Bull in quantity of solids I mean meat at alevents for supper a party of men & women kept eating lustily at one dish after another

for more than an hour & tho' they do not, like us, set down to soak only they do not spare the bottle & it has strength to warm our stomachs. soup mutton chops & broiled chicken & pigeon are very good to Englishmen & boiled potatos turnip radishes always. a desert cabbage lettuce very good, good butter and we have drank good tea when we have made it ourselves. bread usual at Table rather sour beds very good the Bulvards of Roun & I believe the other cities of france, formally the town ditch, is now planted with 4 rows of trees the center paved & two brod side paths with fine elms kept well trim'd often like a box hedge at top, the quays are brod & in these two places all the popilation is out on holiday of evening. the dress of the women form all variety, the common part allways in there large flapt Caps very many of the wealthy kind in Caps often very neat allways tastefull, & bonnets of such kinds so as often to suppose a neat and well drest trademans wife of England sometimes extravagantly showe[g] but much less of that and much more neatness than I expected to find. The men are much neater drest, trowsers universall, allways civil but particularly the women, we could see nothing of their manufacture except what was in there shops. I saw a convenient coffee mill all Tin thus [sketch] so as to have a top & bottom hopper, the bottom one unscrewing of the barrells like a bayonet is fashened to take out the coffee and a projection from the barrell like a bench vice. there Ironmongery very rough & broad Cloths very good. we heard grand mass on Friday at the Cathedral the bishop in his Crimson Robe and muslin sleeves and round Cap while 4 Preests in very rich gold embroidered vestments walked up and down the chancel chant[g] mass occtionlly joined by a choir of Men instruments & Boys the people upon cheirs sit[g] indescriminately occtionally join[g] with the choir it has certinly an imposing efect and much seriousness if not supershon [superstition?] in the manner of the people. the appearance of the streets on sunday are very unlike ours many alltogether open, mosly in part, and tho' there are very few carts

yet there is appearce of busness particularly in front of the cathedral for fodder and seeds. there flocks are the finest and most abundant I ever saw much exceeding Oxford in this and much in the same way. Very often a very fine plant in the shop window. there gardins have not of the neatness and variety of the english, strait lines, small in compass overgrown with shrubs a beautiful pink one now in blow to which I am a stranger. there Chatow are all disfigured with straight *Cut* avenues of limes in slovnly state, house all look uninhabited & in state of decay indeed neatness is no feature in frensh houses but I must exept from this some now build^{g} & lately built with plaster front that are beautifully so, the fronts of there houses are mostly stone or coul^{d} [coloured] white or yallow but in gener^{l} a very dirty appearance so that a fresh coulard one is a grate contrast. there are no places of accomadation upon the road between R & P except where we slept Magny. in 80 miles. the country continues to have the same appear^{ce} as Oxfordshire & Barkshire all open well & neatly cultivated the fruit trees mosly apples, beautifully headed one blush of blossom the roads planted on each side very many lately don scarcely any barly, wheat oats & Peas very fine, single house extensive woods indeed the country is altogether spoiled with smaller and larger woods mostly square or long trees unwisely cropt very few potatos or beans and not many garden beans. within 16 Miles of Paris we came all at once on the seine a vale surounded with chalk cliffs all planted with vines. they appear like beds of Potatos cut to about 9 in. of the ground and a Split stik of ab^{t}. 3 ft. long stuck to each one. St. Germans the old court of Charles 2nd and James 2nd has all the appearance of a deserted place, the road by the Inn is very fine and the long strait avenue very wide. as you approach the barriers it is very Grand. We drove thro' a considerable part of the city to our Hotel of the City of London & coming into a narrow street were pleased with a large open Court a small garden & grass and trees all round, our Appartments at top of one side of Court as

neat clean convenient & comfortable as I was ever in 2/6 a night w^{h} bed a good sitt^{g} room opening into the paved court . . . . all English Gentlemen in the Coffee room to breakfast. May 30th after having a most excellent dinner fish fowl pidgeon & Bread Pudding all excellent we went to the top of Mount Marty and after surveying the whole of Paris from its top we came down to tea and then walkd in the Bulvard at night we are now going to breakfast in the Pale Royall all unite in love and enjoy the journey much your affect. Archibald Kenrick

ARCHIBALD KENRICK TO HIS WIFE

I begin writing this letter to you at Sens where we are come to dinner at 6.o'clock after a good journey upon the whole, the weather fine & not knowing where I left you in my last I will go back from here. our Carage is comfortable & convenient our driver an Italian & his master a frensh man & after leaving ẏ^{e} barriers we found a gentle trot-trot more commonly a walk was the rate we were condemned to go but as there was to be no grumbling we took it quietly. we are taken of course to the secondary house but we eat and sleep well & we have no pride to be hurt. we have been as you will see by following us in the map near the seine all the while and all the bridges have been broken down in the late wars at Sens Montreau & Meulan, we go on Auxare Bouverey Dijon Dole Champagnee to Geneva. the road is best where paved, what is repard with stone is rutty as in England. . . . . The neighbourhood of Sens is the richest we have seen w^{h} heavy crops of hay ready to cut. the inns have more comfort in reality than appearnce. we have good soup foul and Pidgeon. The high ground between Gloucester & Bath are most like the generality of france but these low grounds more like those of Oxfordshire. We went to St. Clue & Varsails on Sunday with a Mr. Tenant in a Hackny coach. St Clue favorite residence of Bonyparte 5 miles from Paris on the Seine on the side of steep

hill the Park well planted pools cascades & waterworks not at work. the house commands a fine view of Paris over a flat of light land with river, is open all the way as well as a considerable portion of the neighbour[g] contry, day very fine, the rooms spacious & high suitable to palace the furnishing of all the appartments bespoke a highly cultivated taste & judgement the ornements of antique Busts vases agate & crystall very fine, everyth[g] of ornament most tastefull & xcellent in execution. we were much imprest with the abilities of the man whatever we might think of his character—from there we went to Varsails the palace is under repair for the King it is much larger than St. Clue & the rooms in proportion, they are gilding the old ornements of the sieling doors and cornices & many of them b[g] but just done & originally executed by Lewis the 14th look rather tawdry compared with present execution. the saloon looking over the surrounding country & garden is certinly a very Grand room & the view very beautifull, noth[g] at Windsor will bare comparison, the room ceiling all painted in the style of the time the gardens in spite of my prejudice against strait lines, with the plantations & two waterworks playing with such an assemblage of fine marble vauses & statues has a Grand efect from the windows of the saloon especially when reflected in the grand mirrors.—We saw on Tuesday the whole of the appartments of the Tuileries the Dutchess Danglemes are handsomest furnisht the others much superior to those you saw at Windsor being larger & more highly ornamented, much of the tapestry very fine some of the shandeleers very beautifull. there was a very genteel crowd to see them, many english. the fine marble pillars in all the french publick buildings have a very grand efect, I must tell you now tho' out of time, the abby church of Sens is much superior to Noter Dam & the alter upon 4 very fine & high marble pillers very beautifully ornamented with rich carved & gilt kind of canopy rest[g] on the pillers, has the finest efect of anything I have seen. there is a fine marble mon[t] of the mother of Lui the 16th in the center. the

windows very fine very old painted glass less than Roon but full as old in appear[ce] perhaps more so from the grater simplicity of its ornaments.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK TO HIS WIFE

. . . . we had the afternoon of Monday wet and very cloudy which deprived us of much of the pleasure of the most grand rich & Romantick part of our days ride, indeed the first was a wide cultivated vale beautifully wooded and watered by the [blank] now a more rapid and wider than the seven at Shrewsbury, the latter part narrow & equally cultivated & woody, the mountains on one side very high & perpendicular, several cascades from there tops. we arrived just at dusk at our Inn and were shown into our bedrooms up 2 pr stairs as we thought for the even[g] but at 8 o'clock we were shown into a good lower room just as our patience was exhausted where upon a large table we found laid for us Honey in the comb exelent strawberries & Cream & tea & excellent butter. After going to bead in good spirits and a good nights rest we awoke to a fine sunshiney morn[g], & after looking at the beautifull Mountain scenery around us, we after an excellent breakfast, set out for the famed vale of Chamoney. we had it very fine the whole day. our conveyance was a side Car & 2 Mules which we can easily step in and out of. still following the Arve to its sours, here white from the Grannit it rubs in its rapid course under the snow & down the mountain. we had two or three veiws of it snow topt head so often coverd with clouds or snow on it. it being surrounded by such immense hills takes off much from its appearance of hight. we found the Rhodedendors blow[g] beautifully like heather upon the sides of the mountain the auricula, cedom, London pride, and yellow Globe & many other of our flowers, we engaged 3 Guides to see the Glasears upon Mont Antvert. Set out at 7 o'clock Clouds upon the Hill but with an appearance of there breaking. after a sharpish

walk of near 2 Hours we came to the snow in which now & then our feet slipt & we came on bottom. Mr. S who was last & had a very stout Guide, went some way down & if his Guide had not stuck fast to him he thinks he should have gone to the bottom. he sweat most profusely, indeed so did we all for 2 french men went with us. after more than 2 Hours very active assension we came to a little Hut built for the purpose where a man who makes a summer job of it, had provided a fire and we unpackt our provisions and eat and drank heavily. we had a good view of the immediate glasears under us surrounded with sharply pointed rocks of shiest that has pierced thro' the mountain rocks. we were unfortunate in having all the surrounding hills cove[d] with clouds tho' we slept 2 Hours in hopes of there dispersing. We desended in a little more than an hour by the means of our spiked sticks and leaning on our guides slid down. in this I could follow Arch, & Grospapa as his Guide called him brought up the rear. After lying upon the bead more than an hour we dined at 4 & drank all your health in a bottle of xellent Champain we had broght out of france & were again in high spirits. again the next a very fine day we set out upon 2 mules & a horse over the Mountains to the vale. we set out about 7, I should before have told you all the sides of the mountains are covered with fir principally the spruce to nearly the height of perpetual snow, at the bottom & middle very fine & thick then narrow. glens or vales have all rapid streams but we came [to] a small point of barren stillness with a very high projecting point out of a high mountain on our left called [blank] but as soon as we began to desend on each side of us was medows & wood hous for man & beast & his winter provision. these are surprisingly numerous wood costs nothing comparative. the women cultivate, the children tend the cattle in there summer pasture, the lower land for hay & no patch is neglected. they hoe for corn as they do in the West Indies, the herbage being short and much of it irregularly skirted with wood has the beauty of lawn scenery. we contin[d]

going between the immense big steep Mountains with every possible patch well cultivated & beautifully green with grass oates & barly & potatos for 5 Hours, with an impetious mountain stream dash over its rugged bottom wooded to its edge. often desending & asending up & down such steep & rugged slopes & by the side of steep declivities with a few blown down pines rold agst the edge as a blind to the steep that makes us now almost shudder, indeed there is no describing its beautifull & romantick Grandure which so occupied my attention that I felt much less than our heavy friend. we dined in a kind of double cross of these narrow defiles with a Church upon a Hillock. the Col de Balm impassable from snow to our regret the season being near a month later. upon the ledges above we had our finest mountain view. the gentianella beautifull in bloom about us. & had a fine view of St. Gothard. the vale of Martigny surounded with high mountains St. Bernard being on our right, the next days ride was the latter part of it thro' a beautifull rich vale to Vivy, & the view of this vale, Vivy, the surround^{g} mountains with there snow tops partially coverd with thin white clouds in all the beautifully varied forms you conceive. while we rod for 12 miles by the side of the Lake of Geneva, a space of from 15 to 20m between us & the opposite Hills, through vineyards will never be forgotten by me & led me to feel there was nothing more for me to see in Switzerland. indeed Mr. Deluc Mr. P's friend had told me so before I went so that when we came to Lausanne I readily fell in with Mr. S. desire to proceed to Berne that day & arrived here to dinner to-day thro a fine vale like that of Clude. tomorrow we set off to Bale. it was market day at Lausanne. no county town of England could appear more in a bustle—

Wednesday even^{g} Bale this morn^{g} I rec^{d} Samuells letter from Birm^{m} but this is the only one I have rec^{d} since I landed its date is 10th June arrived here by mark on it $\overset{e}{y}$ 20th I have left a direction here at the post office here to forward what ar^{ves} here to Colone where I hope it will reach me—We set out in the

morn[g] for Strassburg in a calash in 2 days. I am now at a loss to say when we shall arrive at Durselldorf I should think in 14 or 16 days. having mist my interduction to Franckfort & Arch having an insurmountable objection to ask my never ending questions its likely we shant go there. . . . . Mr. S. is very well & enjoys his journey desires love to Thomas. Your affectionate Arch[d] Kenrick.

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK TO LUCY

1818

"On Monday uncle James gave a most magnificent dinner at 4 o'clock, fish flesh & fowl & a desert on the same scale pineapple & melon grapes &c. &c. In the evening the young ladies, especially Miss Wollatt, grew very hoydenish & tore a handkerchief of mine to tatters in their fun. Samuel arrived next day (Tuesday) & in the afternoon we all went to Uncle James cottage & had a dance. I kicked my heels with great activity considering that I have not danced since Samuel & I & Thos. Stevenson were in Wales together before. Mr. Bakewell of Chester who is going to W. Hall, was of the party. My uncle A. has been very poorly, but is better & I suppose will proceed towards home today. Samuel & I remain at W. Hall till Saturday when we go to Chester, & on Monday we propose to go to Adderley to see Mr. Judgson, who is lately returned & get home on Wednesday."

CHAPTER IX

THE YOUNGER GENERATION

FROM THE REV. JOHN KENRICK

York, 1822

"SAMUEL wrote to me a few days ago from Liverpool to say that he was going thence to Manchester & would give us a flying visit today. He had been at Wrexham & Uncle James had been very gracious & confidential with him & had given him a letter to his Attorney at Liverpool to show him the draft of his will. I believe the tenor of it is already no secret & you will hear it from other members of the family speedily. I heard it as a secret & therefore can only tell you that he has not laid *me* under any temptation to abandon my books & my College to go & keep a Bank at Wrexham. Mrs. Parry has been very poorly & she & Mr. P. are doing very poorly at Liverpool. A little while ago Uncle James' eyes were very bad & he talked of having him to assist him in his Bank. They are now well again & he thinks nothing of Mr. Parry's aid. I do not know what they will do; for Mr. P. is not generally acceptable as a preacher & as a schoolmaster not active tho' very good tempered & really a sensible man when he can give himself the trouble to express his sentiments."

In 1822 Samuel Kenrick married his cousin Marianne. Her sister Rebecca corresponded regularly with Samuel's sister Lucy. The Sarah referred to is Sarah Stevenson, granddaughter of Archibald Kenrick of Wrexham. She married George Smith Kenrick, in 1848; he died a few weeks afterwards. Mrs. G. S. Kenrick died in 1879.

REBECCA, DAUGHTER OF ARCHIBALD KENRICK, TO LUCY

Spring Fields
November 23rd 1822

My dear Lucy

My sheet full of news, it is at last decided must make its appearance before the parcel—but do not be alarmed about the fate of your red cloak—not a moth has touched it I assure you and it looks very nicely.—-I cannot help thinking there was some-

thing else you told me to send but it has entirely slipped my memory. Samuel wishes to send some present to Mrs Weymouth, but he has been so much engaged lately in preparing for his Liverpool journey (which he goes to-morrow morning) that he has had no time to see about anything, therefore he delays sending any parcel till his return, which I suppose will be in about a fortnight and I have had permission to-day to write as soon as I liked. —Saml. and Marianne mean to write in the parcel. I came home on Wednesday last for the first time, and Marianne comes to-day to pay us a visit for a few days then I go back to Highfields with her and stay during Samuel's absence. Your letter was made very welcome, two minutes before it arrived Marianne and I were wishing we could hear of our Dawlish friends and hoping Lucy would write soon. M.A. told me to send her very kind love to her sister Lucy and thanks for her affectionate letter. I fancy we all enjoyed the two quiet days we spent together at Exeter. I am very glad we have seen you again and can think of you looking so well and happy. I suppose the old ladies have left you, we used to fancy you playing at whist about 6 o'clock in the evening. I assure you we have given very flattering accounts of you to your friends here who made particular enquiries after you, and I take great credit to myself for remembering *all* your messages—Then the next question is when do you expect to see Miss Kenrick here? the next summer we hope, she has almost promised. Now do dear Lucy contrive to come—think how many people you will disappoint—you cannot think how much pleasure it will give us all to see you here again. Archibald has lately been to Ruabon with Timothy and they stayed a week and enjoyed themselves much only poor Tim^{y} was nearly walked to death after the partridges. Eliz. Kenrick is going to York at Christmas and Mary to Bath and I understand Sarah has another widower at her feet, is it the fourth or fifth? I do not know whether he has had his answer yet—I tried to cross-question my father but I could make nothing of him. He went to Varteg a fortnight ago and then he

goes on to Alton and Portsmouth so that he will be out a month. But I must tell you of our proceedings at Highfields and how we got through the trouble of seeing friends—In the first place we had a beautiful day for making our appearance, and got to the meeting in excellent time, and in order to avoid taking possession of a wrong seat (a thing Samuel stood in horror of) we got Mr Perceval to marshall us the way—we expected to have the hymn beginning "How blest the sacred tie that binds In union sweet according minds"—Marianne told Samuel she was sure he would blush—he declared he should not but owned afterwards that he should have got over it uncommonly well, if Miss Francis, who sat in the same seat had not handed him a book and then he felt his ears tingle. The next day about half past eleven when we were dressed and everything was ready Marianne rang the bell to give the man her orders she was surprised he did not come and was going to ring again, when my mother entered with such a face of alarm, and told us the constables were in the house and had just taken up Joseph on suspicion of his having robbed his former master. Nobody fainted fortunately, though of course we were greatly terrified and hardly knew what to do—However, my mother offered to stay and superintend the chocolate etc. and Mary dressed herself to wait and was quite ready in time to open the door for Mr and Mrs Bransby and Miss Parsons—Marianne looked rather pale at first but she soon recovered and by the end of the morning, we could scarcely believe such a catastrophe had happened that day, and we were very thankful such a character was so soon removed—they have now a very steady careful man, only he is such a complete old bachelor—I am corrected for laughing at him, but if I look at him waiting at table I find him quite irresistible—We did not find receiving callers so formidable a thing as we expected—indeed when we discovered we were not frightened it was rather amusing—Shall I tell you who were our visitors? All the Rylands, T. Smiths, who likewise brought Mr Osler's card. Mr Joseph Phipson, Miss E. Phipson, Martha

Hawkes with Miss H's card. Miss Sweet with Mrs Benton's, Mrs W. H. Smith Mr Cosby Lee, Mrs Wills and Ridout, Mrs Tom and G. Silvester, Mr and Mrs Finch, Mr and Mrs Hunt and Penns, Mr Bywater, Mrs Hawke, the neighbour Mrs Hately, Mrs Robbins, and Mrs Stokes intends calling but we have heard nothing of Mrs Izon. Miss Pearson called this week and Mr and Mrs Townsend a day before they were wanted. That little Yates has never been yet, they think he is perhaps offended that he had no answer to his note. Edward Cotton has been from home but unless he calls he is not to be invited to any dinner. Mr Abel Payton made apology for not calling as he had no horse and Mrs Russell because hers was lame—Henry Smith was ill and sent his card with a very polite note, he looks dreadfully. Mr and Mrs Kentish have been to St Alban's on account of the death of one of his uncles, he was much affected at his loss and says he felt more than at the death of his father. They returned home last week but we have not seen them yet. After sitting three days we all three set out in a chariot on the fourth day to return calls, which was a very tiresome piece of business. Last Wednesday week we went to a dance at Mrs Hawkes Smith's—Marianne led off with Mr Hawkes Smith, and as Samuel had no cousin Elizabeth to lead off with he got through the evening very satisfactorily, and danced with great glee—Marianne was prudent and only danced twice—I had the toothache nevertheless enjoyed it well enough—dancing has not so many charms as it used to have, now the novelty has worn off. There was such a crowd that they used our satin gowns and shoes shamefully, though I was so self-denying as to forego negus all evening for fear any one should jerk it into my lap. Mr Yates hardly spoke to Marianne at first till Samuel went and thanked him for his congratulations, and then he made up the difference by drinking wine with her. We slept in Birmingham so that M. A. went to bed long before all the company departed. The friday after they had their first dinner-party, and it went off very well on the whole—we got down to dinner much

better than I expected.—Mr Bransby took wine enough to make him exceedingly merry and Mrs. B. enough to make her stupid. My mother thought the dinner well cooked, we managed it all without her aid—-Arch. sent a hare and a brace of pheasants from Ruabon which came in nicely. We were invited to dine at Icknield this week but Samuel's journey prevented it. Samuel has had two bad colds, Marianne bears the changeable weather very well but she is not very stout and cannot bear much fatigue especially walking. I think she has made herself poorly once or twice with walking here and back again. Mr Partridge is in Birmingham and is taking Marianne's picture—it is nearly a full length done in water colours on pasteboard, it is about the size of that of Mrs Reid in col^{d}. crayons. It is not much like her at present. We have had three long sittings and begin to be quite weary of it —the next and last will be on tuesday and I daresay then every touch will be seen. Mr Partridge is very successful in general in catching the likeness—he is a very agreable man, amazingly improved, and he has a nice little scotch wife, full of animation and enthusiasm. We are very glad to see by the paper that Mr John Bowring is at last returned to England, what a shameful thing to keep him in prison for so long a time without being able to bring anything against him. We have heard nothing of the Maidstone party except through Mrs Reid—Samuel wrote to my cousin George a short time ago.—Marianne had a long letter from Lœtitia about a fortnight ago and they heard from Mrs Reid last Sunday—How does Mrs Weymouth bear this damp weather? Remember me if you please, very particularly to her— I shall never forget her kindness to us. I suppose you have given up your walks before breakfast, there must be fine rough seas this stormy weather. Is Miss Cave as constant as ever in her visits! Poor Miss F I feel very sorry for her, what a trial it must be to her to find her brother so worthless. Among others who were enquiring after you was my brother George, and he said he was very glad indeed to hear how much you were recovered.

Sarah Stevenson does not return till the middle of December, we want her back very much. Do you know that Uncle James has made a will and left the Bank to Samuel and made him sole Executor—Samuel is gone to Wrexham to have it explained for nobody seems exactly to understand how it is to be. Mrs Parry is laid up at Wrexham with an attack of liver complaint and Uncle James was very attentive to her. I believe they talk of giving up the boarding-house in Liverpool—Mr Parry would have no objection to preach to a small congregation and Uncle James talked of doing something for them—but I fancy he is cooling again.

Mother desires her love to you and she is very glad to hear such good account of you. Remember us to Miss F——I hope you will receive the parcel in three weeks and that not having the cloak will not be a great inconvenience to you. Do not forget that it is my turn to have a letter next—Archibald is just come in and desires his kind regards to you—Adieu my dear Lucy and believe me yours very

affectionately

Saturday night. REBECCA KENRICK

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM THE REV. JOHN KENRICK TO HIS SISTER, MRS. REID

York April 30. 1823

My dear Mary

I was very much obliged to you for a few lines added at the end of Mr. Reids last letter. Knowing how fully and usefully your time is occupied, I am always glad when you can spare me a fragment or two of it, just to let me know that you are well and happy and have not forgotten me.

I have been lately twice from home for a few days—once to attend the annual meeting of the Trustees of the College and dine with them and since to attend the funeral of our good uncle

of Wynnehall. I had but just returned from Manchester when I got a letter from my uncle Archibald, announcing his death and saying that it had been *his own* desire that I should come over and perform the funeral Service for him. It was not very convenient for me to go, as I have now young men in the house and I had just been absent—but I thought under all the circumstances I could not refuse and I wrote to say I would be with them. The funeral was on Saturday last I left York between 12 and 1 on Friday morning in the Manchester Mail—got to Manchester about 11—left it at 1 for Chester which place I reached by 6 in the evening and found there *John of the Bank* with a gig which uncle James had sent for me. You know how he conveys his friends in gigs—he had put in his hunter, George, who had never been in a gig in his life before. We got however very safely to Wrexham before 8—I had about 120 miles in that day. Next morning we went to Wynnehall in order to return thence with the funeral. Mr. Parry and Mr. P. Boult came from Wrexham and I found there of the family Uncle A. and Sam[1] and several gentlemen who had been invited to the funeral. My aunt and cousins were very composed—indeed my uncle's departure had been so tranquil so free from pain, so cheerful and full of hope that there was every thing in the circumstances of his death to soothe them. He had nearly recovered as they thought from a severe illness and was about to visit his friend Dr. Twiss in Warwickshire when this fatal attack took place. It was a gradual decay of the vital power at last without any particular disease—on the Sunday the day preceeding his death he called his family about him & addressed them in a very affectionate and impressive manner. They were all present except the two lads in America. The day of the funeral was a very wet one and it poured with rain all the time I was performing the service. We returned to W. Hall in the evening and I remained there that night & came to town next day to preach his funeral sermon. Mr. Pearce had of his own accord requested that I would preach & when the service

was over, desired that *whenever* I came to Wrexham I would officiate for him. Uncle James had not been I believe for years in the chapel before. After Service Mr. P Boult drove me in his gig to Chester and on Monday evening I got safe home. I am very glad that I went—for my uncle's kind and friendly disposition and the uprightness of his character deserved all marks of respect and it was a very interesting *family* meeting. I believe he has left property enough to make a comfortable provision for his family—it is to be equally divided. Samuel and my uncle are two of the executors Mr. Lee of Redbrook near Whitchurch is the third. Uncle James is very much broken and both his sight & his memory fail him—but he was very friendly & hospitable.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK JR. TO HIS SISTER REBECCA, C/O REVD. J. KENRICK, GILLS GATE, YORK

W. Bromwich Novr. 18. 1823

Poor thing, so they have been telling you bad news and fretting you, the fact is mother wrote to you when she was in low spirits or a poor way and you know that she does not then see things in their best light, but I can tell you that I have given Wynter the slip and that by the time you come home I shall have recovered my natural gait which you are pleased to say is so ridiculous, my way of walking now is so ambiguous that it would puzzle any simple person to say whether I really meant to go sideways, backwards, or forwards. I see that you are now able to appreciate tolerably well the quantity of pleasure to be expected from small visits in a country town, I have myself such a value for them that if I thought myself at all likely to be obliged to undergo them I would immediately turn farmer or any thing that would take me out of their focus—Since you have been out I have been studying horticulture with great intensity and I hope you will benefit so far from my labours as to eat Syrian grapes next year

though you have lost your turn. Father brought me some that were uncommonly good while I was up stairs. I believe they have hung some of them up in the kitchen but I don't think they will keep till George comes. have you heard what a strong party we are to have to celebrate Georges one and twenty there will be Uncle P. with a pound of tobacco and also our aunt and I believe Tim, that shaver has sent home a profile of himself so much altered so like George and so buckish that I am in an agony of curiosity till I see him. Father says that he has in some sort set up for a witt in conversation but his letters will never be worth reading till he gets out aunt P's atmosphere—we have been rather in an uneasy state here for the last week in consequence of Bowman conceiving that it was but reasonable that as he was to have a third share in the bank at our Uncle's death without advancing any capital, if he chose to advance he ought to have half, but he is come to reason much to our gratification who hardly expected it, he being a very firm man, not to say obstinate —and everything is now going on well, it has made Maryanne very tristful and full of tears as Sam had determined in event of B. proving stupid, to go there himself. touching your return home the time we leave to yourself as you will have to come by yourself, and Cousin John may either invoice you to Mr Johns of Manchester whom he knows and who will be happy to do you a little kindness or you can take your place all the way through Sheffield, but you are most likely to know what is best to be doing. Father is gone to-day to assist at the opening of the Chapel at Handly in the Potteries, it will be to-morrow Mr Aspland will preach in the morning and Mr Yates in the evening we desire that you will do duty for us at York saying that we are all well.

Yours

ARCHIBALD KENRICK Jnr.

REBECCA KENRICK TO LUCY

Spring Fields January 26, 1824

Thank you my dear Lucy for your long and kind letter. It is true I have been much engaged lately but I should have found time to have answered it immediately had not Marianne written—You would have heard from me a week ago, but finding a packet was expected from York I delayed sending my letter till it arrived. I am sincerely rejoiced to hear such good accounts of Mrs G. Kenrick and I trust that with unremitting care she will quite recover her health again. Your letter to me was a most melancholy one, I was *very* sorry for you all three and was much afraid your health would suffer from care and anxiety—neither did I like to think of your being in lodgings again, and during the winter. However, later accounts have been so much more cheering that I hope all will now go on well My cousin Margaret should take a lesson in prudence from you I think, for you are quite a pattern of that virtue. I preach you up to Sarah Stevenson sometimes, when my good advice and long lectures have no effect—but they are of some use to, for they are so much disliked that the dread of them keeps her in a little order—Sarah was very unwell in December, but since that time she has been gaining ground a good deal—She has been here frequently during the Christmas and a little merriment has been of service to her—Next week her brother takes her to London to pay Mrs Robinson a visit—The young man himself is much brightened up of late, and is leaving off coats that hang about him as if they had been made for his father. Samuel & I suspect he is making up to another lady but as we have at present no ground to go upon but our own surmises I won't tell you her name. By the bye you shan't call me sly and demure for I am not so, and though I do not boast a heart of adamant I will maintain it has never yet been softened. After puzzling some time about it I recollected that Lydia had been in London and have no doubt she told you the

same incomprehensible story she teazed me with in the summer. I could not get her to say what she meant or who was her authority, but both Marianne and I assured her she would look in vain for the wedding-cake which really seemed almost melting in her mouth, so certain was she of tasting it soon—In spite of all I could say to her (and I said with as grave a face as I could, considering I was talking to Lydia) she would have it that I carried it off uncommonly well, she never knew a person keep her secret better. Unfortunately I fear that if I had a secret to keep I should betray it directly. Dr De Lys is married to Miss Ledsam after all and looks very blithe I hear. Mr Wynter is going to pay the bride-visit this week—All the world here are marrying but I hear of so many I cannot recollect them—you will see strange changes when you come. I have not seen Master Timothy Smith Osler yet, but I understand he is a very extraordinary child and his Aunt Hannah is very proud of him, she does not know how she shall be able to leave him to go abroad with Mr and Mrs W. Sturch Poor Mrs. Osler looks miserably pale—I have just heard from Anne Paget that her sister Mrs White has a little boy and was doing uncommonly well—she assures me the work these little strangers cause beforehand is nothing to what comes after—Nephews and nieces seem a subject of conversation everywhere now I think—and they provoke me by all being able to boast of a nephew before I can, but mine shall be a great wonder I am determined—Our dear Marianne keeps up wonderfully—she begins to be a little tired of work but that does not signify as it is nearly done and she does not like being left much alone—I don't like to stay with her altogether, because it looks like running away from home as soon as the house is empty, and my mother complains of feeling dull when she is left long alone, so I mean at present to spend my evenings here and my mornings with Marianne.—Samuel and my father go to Wrexham on Tuesday when I hope things there will be comfortably settled, for there has been a great deal of trouble about them lately owing to Uncle

James. Next week I believe my father goes to Varteg and I wish anything was comfortable there, but there is nothing but vexation with it. Mr Priestly who won't do anything he ought to do—my father has quite a careworn face again but we are thankful his health continues good. Eliza Priestly continues much the same I think. We have all enjoyed our meeting this Christmas more than I can tell you and as for George and Timothy they hardly knew how to make enough of each other—Timothy is grown such a nice boy quite one of the sprucest of the beaux at our dances—he is so obliging and good-natured and laughs now at the jokes his older brothers make at his expense. poor George will feel the change a great deal—he seemed so happy at home and he looked rather sick at heart when he set out again for Varteg. I was much entertained with hearing him compare notes with Marianne about domestic affairs—Well Marianne, and how are you off for servants? Archibald is quite well again and has now set hard to work, he has had a long holyday, he never went down to the factory till nearly ten when my brothers were here—he desires to be kindly remembered to you. I am happy to say Mrs Parry met with no affront and says she enjoyed herself very much—she was rather spiteful occasionally to Sarah Stevenson and rather disagreable to Marianne sometimes in her remarks, in other respects we went on very well. Mr Parry derived great benefit from the change and is better now than he has been for months—I don't know whether Marianne told you we had a very merry family meeting here on Christmas day—quite like old times—and we wished several times Lucy had been amongst us—We spent New Years Day at Tipton and staid all night—my father set us all dancing and was the most alert of the party. Hannah Boult and Harriet Smith spent a fortnight here together—they are very nice unaffected girls and very pretty too—Sarah and I quite enjoyed being the old ladies and having these two young ones to take care of. We went to a gay dance at Icknields and Hannah Smith, good little soul, sent Sarah a very kind invitation and she

[went] with us to help me to take care of the girls. The old ladies were much disconcerted to see Sam Phipson a very wild young man, dancing with Hannah Boult and finding he had engaged her again after supper without the poor girl being aware it was the same disagreable partner, they laid their wise heads together, and just as he was coming up to claim her, they marched off with their charge.—We had a large party here 47—tho' we had 8 disappointments that day—it went off very well and we danced till we were all tired—my father actually danced 3 sets of country dances. Don't you think he gets young? We had a grand supper and I thought we should never have finished the fragments—when the ladies left the room Mr Yates, I believe got up and gave the health of the first gentleman who was married—someone immediately gave Mr Yates health—Mr Cotton then gave the last, upon which my Uncle Tom said—then I beg leave to propose Mr Cotton's health—it occasioned such a roar of laughter. I don't know what the gentlemen will do for a butt when Mr. Cotton goes to Manchester. The partnership between him and Mr Phipson is dissolved and I am sure it is high time he left Birmingham. Archibald and I have been to the Wolverhampton Dispensary Ball with the Pearsons. Letitia has sent Marianne such a beautiful little robe and has made a half a dozen of the little shirts for her—she says Emma is much better this winter than she had expected, the rest seem pretty well but she wrote in a great hurry and I don't think there is any other news. There was some sauciness as there generally is in my cousin John's letter to Samuel, he wonders how the shirt and robe are to fit the same *animal* My letter is to come this week by Miss Blyth I hear. I had a very pretty note from Emma Wellbe—she says at the end she feels quite ashamed of being the only one writing, it looks like putting herself so forward! It is so like her. Robert is going to London to Mr Bickmore's office in the autumn—Letitia says poor Emma can hardly bear to think of it. I am very glad you think of taking up Italian again—Archibald has challenged me to

it and says he should soon outstrip me—but I cannot begin just yet—It is a great comfort that your eyes are so much better—It is delightful to receive such long letters from you again. Marianne told me to give her best love and she is *much* obliged to you for your letter. I am grieved to think of poor Mrs Weymouth, I can't think how Charles can have the heart to leave his mother. I have just been called down to see Mrs Tuckerman and Mary Francis, a sweet little woman Mrs Tuckerman is—she and Sarah Francis are going next week into Yorkshire and I shall be taken in for another letter, there are so many opportunities that I seem to be always writing to York. My father and mother desire their love to you and my cousin George and they are very glad to hear you are so well. My love to the Divine too if you please and Believe me

Yours very affectionately
R. KENRICK

The Mrs. G. Kenrick mentioned was the second wife of the Revd. George Kenrick, brother of John, Lucy and Samuel. He married in 1817, Marianne Hodgson, and had one daughter, who married Abraham Champion of Bristol. His second wife was Margaret Bowring who died in 1824 and his third wife was Miss Walters. The Revd. George Kenrick died in 1874. The expected child of Samuel and Marianne was not born alive. Letitia, daughter of the Revd. Charles Wellbeloved was the wife of the Revd. John Kenrick. Varteg was in South Wales. There were ironworks there.

REBECCA KENRICK TO LUCY

West Bromwich, June 12th
1824

My dearest Lucy,

It has been a great pleasure to me to find from the last accounts Marianne has been able to send me, that you are once more at Hampstead, and improving in health as much as it is perhaps reasonable to expect, but I was distressed to hear how very much this last illness has reduced you. I hope Marianne will

have a still better account of you before she writes again. Intelligence of you seems to travel very far before it reaches us, but we are glad to get tidings of you in any way. And I must still look forward to seeing you sometime this year, though I understand you hold out small hopes of a visit while my cousin John & Laetitia are here. Marianne seems very happy at York although she has not been quite well. It was unfortunate that she should take cold just before she left home, but she always times them very ill. It will be most delightful to have our cousins here this summer, and still more agreeable if one of the Miss Wellbe's would come with them, but Marianne seems to think there is little chance of that because the Miss Kinders are coming to York. I came home on Wednesday after an absence of six weeks. I have been out so much lately that packing up my things and setting out on a journey seems a very commonplace occurrence. I do intend, however, now to stay at home for a twelvemonth, with the exception of a visit to Varteg and I think I ought to go and see poor George in his banishment. My father was very good to let Archibald come and fetch me home in the gig—I hardly expected it as Samuel was out—We spent two days together very pleasantly at Mr Paget's and took a day and half to come home that we might see Litchfield Cathedral. One of the days that we were at Loughborough we went a very merry expedition in a cart to the forest hills, where we made a fire and drank some excellent tea—It was the most lovely evening we have had this summer and we walked home by moonlight through woods and across fields. I spent part of a week with my aunt Cumberland, she looks much the same as she did and they seem to get very little forwarder in this world. One week I spent with Mrs White and learnt to nurse again, for it is so long since I saw a baby that I had almost forgotten how—he is a great heavy fellow, and when I first saw him had neither animation nor beauty, but he improved wonderfully though he cannot yet be at all compared to Sam and Kenrick Reid—Kenrick was such a nice

light little fellow too, to nurse. I staid the last week with Mrs. Charles Paget and made her a robe and two shirts for she is expecting to be confined very soon. Miss Eliza Attenburrow was visiting her at the same time. I thought her very clever and entertaining—we went over to Nottingham one day to see the Castle and town, and we lunched at Mr Attenburrow's but I saw none of the ladies that you know. Miss Attenburrow told me Mr Carpenter was going to marry the eldest Miss Taylor. While I was at Loughborough I went to see Dishley once more and walked round the garden. It is certainly a very pretty farmhouse—but the garden is not kept in much order. Archibald and I spent two hours most delightfully in Litchfield Cathedral—it is a beautiful building and Chantry's monument to the two children is so interesting that we hardly knew how to get away. We are come home pretty well sunburnt, and as I have done nothing since but write and garden the tan is not much diminished. Archd. has had a trial of patience this morning; he has been taking great pains with the vines for the last few months and has been boasting everywhere of the beautiful wood they have made, and what a fine crop he should have next year, and Mr Bowman advised us last night to burn sulphur in the greenhouse to kill the insects, and this morning not only many of the leaves of the plants are withered, but the vines look most deplorable, and there will be no crop next year, if they come to anything this year. He tells us now that he tried the experiment before with a plum tree and killed all the leaves! Archd. says he is a prating old fellow and so he is. Mr and Mrs Bowman have been here about ten days—they return next week—Mr B. and my father go on Monday to Newcastle to the Tract meeting, which I think is very spirited of them. Mr Hincks who preaches our charity sermon to-morrow officiates there likewise. I suppose you have heard that Sarah's marriage with Mr Bannerman is broken off—I am *very* sorry for her, but all the family are glad it went no further for [they] had began to dislike Mr Bannerman.

Sarah and Mr Stevenson are removed to Tividale I understand. I have sent to ask Sarah to come here this evening. It is so long since we have met that we shall have a great deal to say. West Bromwich seems rather dull now Samuel and Marianne are gone. I begin to want Marianne back again very much. I have not been farther than the garden yet—I don't know anything of Birmingham news and there seems to be little gathered when I am out of the way. Give my kind love to Mrs Reid—All join in kindest remembrances to you and Mr and Mrs Reid and best wishes for your improvement in health—Believe me my dear Lucy, yours very

affectionately

R. KENRICK

Love to Sam.

REBECCA KENRICK TO LUCY

Swansea

June 29th, 1825

My dear Lucy

I am very much obliged to you for your kind and affectionate letter which crossed mine to you on the road, and now I have to ask your congratulations on a very different occasion—viz. a wedding in the family. I have been anticipating the pleasure of sending you the news for a month past, but the *business* part of it was not finally arranged between the *old people* till last week—you will almost guess who the parties are, nevertheless that shall not disappoint me of the pleasure of telling you that Archibald has set his affections upon my friend Anne Paget and that she is of opinion that her happiness is very closely connected with his—all this was settled between the young people just a week before we heard of George's alarming illness and of course that circumstance put a stop to the negociations for a time—I thought Mr Paget and my father an age in writing backwards and forwards,

but it is tedious work settling such things by letter—Archibald was to be at Loughborough last Sunday to breakfast and to be back again by tuesday morning—it was provoking enough that he could not go while Samuel was at West Bromwich—It is a connection which pleases us all extremely in every respect and we think Archibald could not have made a better choice—I think you do not know Anne at all and therefore I must tell you what sort of person she is—first then her figure is awkward and her face rather plain than otherwise I suppose, though it has such an agreeable expression that it does not appear plain to me—she is neither very lively nor very sedate but frank open and warm-hearted clever well-informed and *sensible*—is the very pink of kindness to all about her, and to conclude is a good sound Unitarian. You will laugh at the climax, but do you think you shall like her? I have not mentioned any faults, and I do not mean to represent her as perfection, but they do not occur to me at present and I am not inclined to use any effort to recal them. I always valued her friendship exceedingly and Archibald could not have given me a sister that I should have welcomed more warmly. I think they are exactly suited to each other. I must say though that I thought during Anne's last visit to me her entertaining powers were sadly diminished. I did not like being Mrs. third person at all and I told her when she left that I was not at all sorry she was going, for I much preferred that the courting should be done at Loughborough—However, I only had to put up with it for one day—and yet I was often in a great fidget during the former part of the visit, for it was plain enough to me what they were both thinking of though they seemed so much in the dark themselves—I shall miss Archibald when he goes to a house of his own, but I have long made up my mind to and I was very anxious for him to be happily married—Harriet Paget will be married in the month of August and Mr and Mrs Paget do not like the thoughts of parting with another daughter immediately so that they will have to wait at least twelvemonths—Mr Paget

rather wishes they should wait and save some money, but I hope Archibald will not give into that plan. I am sure they will have quite enough for sober reasonable people to begin life with, and I don't approve of such engagements being lengthened unnecessarily—besides both parties are spoiled from the time they are engaged till they are married—I don't expect Archibald to be good for anything now till he is married, I wrote a short time ago to Anne Welbe, and said I hoped to have a great piece of news to tell soon and if I had I would write to Letitia before she left York. But from a letter my father had from my cousin John on Monday I do believe he has had the impertinence to guess it, so I will not write and tell what is already known. I hope you are enjoying yourselves very much at Sandgate, you will be a very happy merry party—I was much rejoiced to hear so improved an account both of you and Mrs Reid from Marianne and earnestly hope the sea air will quite re-establish Mrs Reid's health—pray give my kind love to her. We came here from Bristol by the steam packet last friday and proved ourselves excellent sailors except my mother who was down in the cabin nearly the whole time. Nevertheless we were thoroughly wearied of twelve hours sailing—one day we spent in Bristol for the purpose of getting a poney gig—it is to come by the steam packet next Monday, it will hold three, our horse arrived yesterday from Varteg—and thitherward my father has bent his steps to-day after having taken a great deal of trouble to settle us comfortably. he has left my mother till next week as she seems to enjoy a little change so much. Tim^{y} and Mr Needham have been keeping house together and I don't hear that they have fallen out—We hope to have Marianne here on Saturday and she is to bring William with her. There is to be stock-taking next week at Bromwich so that if Samuel were to bring her she must wait till after that business is over which would be losing too much time. Perhaps Samuel will come and fetch her. I was very glad to hear from her that my cousin George appeared much better for his journey We were

much concerned to hear of his being so sadly out of spirits when you saw him last—but as his health improves his spirits will mend likewise. We are fortunate in meeting with a Unitarian place of worship here—Mr Awberry the minister is an excellent preacher and a very agreeable man. Mrs Awberry is remarkable for being the most economical woman I ever heard of. They have never had more than 100£ per an. and yet they have saved three or four thousand pounds, they have two sons settled at Manchester, the eldest of whom is as extravagant as his mother is thrifty and is not ashamed to spend his parents little stock which they have saved for their old age. Mrs Awberry is a famous talker and they are very friendly to us. they knew my uncle Timothy. We have one or two other acquaintances and they are civil in offering the use of their libraries. George has not been so well since Sunday, at least Dr Howel's bandaging produced a degree of inflamation which has not yet subsided. George thinks it was owing to the bandage being too tight. It is better to-day and he means, in spite of Dr Howel to have a sail this afternoon. We talk of going over to Ilfracombe before we leave Swansea. George desires his kind remembrances to you and Mrs Reid and thanks for your enquiries and good wishes. My mother desires her kind love to you and Mrs R. and she is very glad to hear you are so much better. Pray remember my love to the children and Believe me, dear Lucy,

Ever your affectionate cousin

R. Kenrick.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK JR. TO REBECCA

West Bromwich July 15, 1825

Dear Rebecca

I ought I believe to have answered your letter sooner but you must lay the fault of the delay on quarter week and the bothers attending it. I was very glad to find by your letter that

you were so happily settled for the time at Swansea and that you have the chance of pleasant society the want of which is generally so much felt at watering places. Father was always so very considerate on these occasions, but I thinks he gets kinder, and more anxious to promote our comfort and happiness every year. I had a letter from him the other day mentioning that Mother was with you and enjoying herself much (and truly I think she has earned such a relaxation hardly enough) and saying also that the Hunts were leaving the big house, and that he was sending off express for an upholsterer to set the house a little in order for the Gents a circumstance which occupied his mind so much that he mentioned it twice over. I hope they may be well accomodated. I was in hopes we should have seen him here but the death of Needham's Grandfather seems to have put that aside for the present. he was so good as to say that if I found much difficulty in getting a house he would build one for me on his ground, I need not say that the nearer I am to the old house the better I shall like it. I am vastly [amused?] at George's Idea of my being laid on the shelf because I have a piece of luck that he is not likely to fall in with for some time at least—he will find that I am still Arch and ready for any reasonable mischief & Master Dimity need not look out for my double barrell gun just yet. Samuel left me yesterday by the six o'clock coach. I trust he was in time for it, but I believe he had a smart run for his place. and as it happened to be particularly hot and myself particularly indisposed for work, I thought I would just walk over to Tividale to see how the people were. I was sorry to find that Sarah was poorly and I did not see her. Miss Gibbs and Miss—were both there notwithstanding which the old gentleman was infinitely grubby and had a beard of three days, but he was very friendly notwithstanding. he takes Sarah to Leamington next week, I hope she will be better for it. Tom, I understand, continues to increase in fatness and there are some intimations that he will exhibit with the next Durham Ox, in which case the four footed beast will stand but little chance of

attracting its due share of admiration from a discerning public. I need not have been afraid of your telling *the* news too soon, its all over Birmingham and I can't turn the corner of a street without being met by a congratulation, even Cotton was so elevated by the subject that he asked me to dinner and I took him at his word, his invites not being to be dallied with, he has very pleasant lodgings near the Fiveways Gate and its a pity he does not oftener shew them to his friends—Samuel dined with Mr Kentish on Sunday and when I saw him afterwards he said Mr K. has something for you out of Shakespear—Oh Sweet, oh sweet Anne Page, Anne complains grievously of your termagant spirit and wants me to take her part, but she has chosen to provoke that unruly member your tongue, I tell her she must even abide all chances. John and Hubert Parker have been there. I do not know whether they have yet left, and she says she has received a note from Mr P. expressing a wish that I would visit him at Hampton when she is there and so I suppose I must as she seems anxious for it. I do not know how it is but certainly my liking for him does not increase.—Mrs James Taylor is in Birmingham with her husband who preached our charity sermon—She is looking very well and happy—its a mortal pity some of you are not here to eat the fruit of which there is a mortal quantity—with love to you all

Your affectionate brother

A KENRICK Jnr

Go to Ilfracombe by all means.

MRS. A. KENRICK JR. TO HER MOTHER

My dear Mother, White Hart, Bath, Octber. 25th, 1826

I have had quite an inclination to write to you before to tell you how very much we have enjoyed the last two days at Clifton, but thought I would wait until I could date from your favourite place, & had received some intelligence from home and

now my dear Caroline's letter has put me quite upon the fidget to thank her and all my dear friends for their kind recollections of me. I am very much obliged to her for her very very kind letter and hope you will give her my best thanks for it, immediately after closing my letter on Sunday we started for Bristol, I inside & Archibald out as there was only one place in the interior. I had very pleasant company more so than generally falls to one's lot in a stage coach, the one a Bristol merchant and the other a very intelligent Scotchman a *gentleman* farmer; the country is most beautiful indeed! I had no idea Gloucestershire had been so fine a county, it beats either Warwickshire or Worcester in appearance of fertility, & the Severn being three miles wide ornaments the valley most beautifully, we were quite agreed with the Scotchman that no man could say he had seen England until he had travelled through this part of it; unfortunately it became dark when we reached Berkeley two stages from Bristol where is Berkeley Castle where Edward 2nd. was murdered now the residence of Colonel Berkeley. We only stayed in Bristol to remove our luggage from one coach to another and drove to Clifton. On Monday morning it was very wet, the first day we had rain though it seems Sunday was not fine with you, however we found no difficulty in amusing ourselves, Archibald with his pencil and I pretending to work, but it takes all my time to talk so the collar has not made much progress; about twelve it cleared up and we walked out to be most highly delighted indeed. Matlock is not to be compared to Clifton for though the Avon is but a poor muddy river the banks are so very fine one side very much resembles Matlock but on the other is a very fine precipitous rock which we could scarce tire of admiring: when we had walked sometime I had a hot bath whilst my good husband took a sketch of our favourite rocks; he is very busy indeed sketching as Marianne has laid him a wager of a bottle of champagne & a dinner that he does not take twenty drawings home with him done from nature, whilst he lays that he shall, I think it a capital wager as all the drawings produced are to

be mine and will be most agreeable mementos; after dinner we went a ride, & on tuesday a still longer walk and ride, we went into nightingale vale a most appropriate spot you will think for persons in our situation!! & indeed so we found it, it was a side glade from the river, & when we had proceeded a short distance the view was quite enchanting, a bold cliff partly covered with trees on one side, the other not so rocky & seen through & above the foliage behind were the towering precipitous rocks on the banks of the river, the dew still hanging on every shrub, & such a quiet stillness prevailing only broken by the occasional notes of the robin & the wind rustling in the trees, formed altogether a scene to charm the unobservant, & with a good husband who is more alive to the beauties of nature than any other I ever met with you will judge that I could not but be delighted in the extreme. In our ride to King's Weston a point of land running into the Channel from which you have a rich extensive land view combined with the water of the channel & the hills on the opposite shore, we passed a wood that would have particularly pleased my dear Mother for it was composed entirely of evergreens & principally of Arbutus & Lauristinus, not very high at present but full of flowers & fruit & altogether beautiful; we also saw the Cottages being a collection of nine ornamental cottages for poor people, each surrounded by its own piece of garden & opening upon a common piece of turf, every one was different but all had seats in some comfortable nook or other & were covered with every description of creeper, it was altogether the drollest thing I ever saw & should any one want a design for a fancy cottage, he could not find a better study; for each one would be pretty by itself. This morning it was very wet indeed but we came in a Fly with our luggage & were not the worse for it, by the bye Archibald can travel as well in a chaise as I can; though I threaten to inform my Mama how ill he uses me for can you believe it this being only the fifth day after our marriage & we not having ridden more than six miles he struck up "away with melancholy"with

most appropriate expression of countenance & has within this last ten minutes laid hands upon me & been fighting me; please to keep good care of my banking book I shall certainly be writing to you soon to withdraw my money & send it to me that I may escape from so rude a husband. We have been perambulating Bath even spite of flying showers & are certainly much pleased with it, we readily found Millsom St, which I think was the one you told me you were in & admired the views from the different Crescents, besides which we have seen the pump room & the baths, & I did not lose the opportunity of immersing myself even without salt in it as they assured me the water was very bracing, Oh! dear! what a queer place the public bath is! I am sure it deserves all the ridicule thrown upon it in the Bath Guide. Tomorrow we try for places in the Mail for Exeter, & if we cannot get them think of posting to Glastonbury seeing the abbey & taking a Taunton coach the next day & so to Ilfracombe. You will conclude from this letter that I am in good health as well as spirits, Archibald says I am picking up my crumbs, by the bye I am much altered since I left you, the damp having taken my hair completely out of curl the other day I brushed it up & my husband having taken a fancy to it because he says it makes me look so sharp I am very willing to adopt a fashion which saves me so much trouble on my journey. I need not tell you that I am as happy as possible with the kindest & most thoughtful of husbands & find that I was not half aware of the treasure I should possess in his well stored mind, which from his natural reserve no one but his wife will ever be able properly to appreciate; my only fear is lest I should lose him for when I think I have him fast by my side in the twinkling of an eye he has either jumped down precipices or scrambled up rocks for a better point of view & I have to look round to make out what is become of him. I wish you could have seen the surprise of our car driver yesterday he had got down to walk up a hill when he fancied he saw Archibald pass him on the road & turned round to look if he

were in & was evidently most amazed to find he had turned his legs over the sides of the vehicle & made his escape, & when on coming up to him the man dismounted to open the door, he put his hand at the top and sprang in, the poor man had the greatest difficulty to restrain his laughter, & I doubt not but he thought he had the honour of driving out a harliquin. I am afraid I have tired your eyes but give it to Caroline to spell for you. Please my dearest Mother to give my very best love to my Father & all my brothers & sisters & believe me to be as ever

your affectionate & happy daughter

Anne Kenrick.

CHAPTER X

FAMILY NEWS

SAMUEL KENRICK TO HIS SISTER

Addressed to:—
Miss Kenrick
Hampstead.

West Bromwich. 27th May 1829

MY dear Lucy

As George intends to set out for Hampstead in the morning I take the opportunity of writing by him in order to pay off some part of my debt to you in this way. He had had a bilious attack much such a one as you have had but his only lasted about two days. He has consulted Mr. Wynter about his health, he advises him to be as much in the open air as possible, & use a great deal of exercise & read very little we have been endeavouring together to follow Mr. Wynter advice & have gone about together & taken many pleasant drives. We have usd Dumb bells in doors & football without & shewd off Gymnastics on the backs of the chairs in short if we are not both of us well it is not for want of endeavouring to be so. I wish you could have been spard from Hampstead at the same time as Mary. I should have so much enjoyd your being here it is quite delightfull to see Mary she looks so well & is in such good spirits. Poor little Letty was unwell for a day or two after she came, the journey seemd to have made her feverish she is now recovering her looks I intend to nurse her as I hear you say that it would be a nice employment for me. I have begun.

On Friday Mrs. Boult & Hannah are expected they come now in order to see Mrs. Reid. I have been quite vext to find that Mrs. Reid says she must go back as soon as the Holidays commence. I had reckond upon keeping her a good while when we once got her here, she has however convincd me that she cannot well stay after the holidays begin, she intends to return by way of Stratford & take Lucy & Marianne with her.

My Cousin Lydia flew by us a few days ago on the outside of the Holyhead Mail she was going to spend a month in London

& could not afford to lose a day. Her plan was announcd the day before her passing by a scrawl from Cos[n] Elizabeth to Miss Hawkes requesting that Miss Beeston might meet her at the Inn in Birmingham Miss B could not go but sent the servant meet her at which Cousin L was much surprizd.

My Aunt Archibald has been very indifferent lately she appears to me not to have been well since she was frightened by the Ghost at Tividale. Have you heard of the Tividale Ghost, if you have not harken to me, it might make the foundation for a good ghost story for the next years Keepsake. About a month ago my aunt went to spend a few days at Tividale, while my uncle was gone to Liverpool. Miss Stevenson was not well & had Miss Thompson with her. They had all gone to bed Aunt & Miss Stevenson in one bed & Miss Thompson slept in a sort of dressing room adjoining there had been a small fire in the room, which had nearly burnt out when Miss S was awoke in the middle of the night by a noise like a person walking about the room. She had on several occasions before thought she heard somebody walk about her room in the night & had mentiond it more than once & was told that it was only a sign of what a nervous state she was in & she had been distressd at perceiving it, but now she thought she was quite sure that it was not an illusion & she in a great fright awoke her bedfellow my Aunt & whispering in her ear askd her if she did not hear somebody walking by the bed side just on the other side of the curtains my aunt heard it distinctly Miss Stevenson now became more alarmd they both sat up in the bed & drawing aside the curtain as gently as possible they beheld a figure in white sitting before the fire which threw a glimmering uncertain light on its features, supposing it to be Miss Thompson who had been taken ill & come out of bed to the fire they calld softly to the figure Miss Thompson! Miss Thompson! The figure noded its head twice but said not a word, becoming more alarmd they cried out aloud to it Miss Thompson! Miss Thompson! what *is* the matter—when they were completely horror

struck at beholding the real Miss Thompson (all in white) appear at the door of her bedroom which was just opposite the bed and ask *them* what *was* the matter. This almost deprivd them of their senses Miss Thompson saw the figure (in white too) by the light of the fire & going a little nearer perceivd that it was old Mr. Stevenson sitting in a chair fast asleep & now & then nodding his head. His eyes were staring wide open. He had walkd in his sleep from his own room had walkd up & down Miss Stevensons room & when tird I suppose had sat himself down comfortably in a chair before the fire. They awoke him calld up Benjamin & had him conveyd to his own room. When askd about it next morning he had not the least recollection of the circumstances & thought that he had been in bed all night. A night or two afterwards he walkd down stairs in his sleep. Since that time they have fastend the door on the outside Miss S says that she has often thought that she has heard something walking about her room at night but only thought oh what a state my poor head is in. My aunt was most dreadfully frightened & gave a most terrific scream when Miss Thompson appeard. She came here to mantuamake a few days afterwards & I had the whole story from her. I have rather scribbled my letter in order to have it ready for George. With kind love to Mr. Reid & you beleive me

Your affectionate brother
Saml Kenrick.

George brings a parcel for York which I will thank Mr. Reid to send to the Booksellers on Friday to go by the Magazine it will then I beleive be just in time

REBECCA TO LUCY, ENDORSED "ENTERTAINING LETTER FROM COUSIN REBECCA."

My dear Lucy Springfields, June 16th 1829

We are such gay people just now in West Bromwich that we hardly know how to find time to prepare our dispatches for the opportunities which are travelling north south east and west at

this particular time—We are all engaged in scribbling at this moment, but from the yawns and chins on elbows I have been noticing I do not think the letters promise to be very brilliant—We shall feel quite lost at the end of the week after the breaking up of our happy party.—Mrs Boult is so kind as to stay till friday that we may not be entirely deserted in one day. I was vexed to be obliged to go from home a part of the time, and was quite in a fidget to get back again, and now they are preparing to go I feel more dissatisfied still that I have missed so much of Mrs Reid's and Mrs Boult's company—Mrs B. is much pleased at having become acquainted with Mrs R. at last, and she seems to have enjoyed her sojourn amongst her friends—she says she is grown so fat since she came that her ring is almost buried. Hannah Boult and Eliza Bowman will stay longer with us but they go on Thursday to Tipton and Tividale for a few days. E. Bowman seems a nice unaffected girl, not at all like her Aunt Catherine and vastly improved by her finish at Mrs Herfords—I am in some dismay at the prospect of Miss Kate B's company at the oratorios—We hope to have George at home and meant to have enjoyed ourselves thoroughly but I am sure we shall get into some scrapes about Miss Kate. Aunt Parry and her spouse are to come next week on their way to Cheltenham. Hannah Boult is to accompany them, and they [are] even so polite as to invite me. Luckily I have half a dozen *good* reasons to give for declining the honour. I hope you will think baby improved, she is a strong, good-tempered merry little thing. I thought her so much come on while I was at Loughborough—Letty amuses me very much—she is such a little creature to be trotting about and speaking—but she is so altered since I was at Hampstead, I should not have known her for the same child, though I could have had no doubt she was Lucy's sister. I saw plenty of children in Leicestershire and we had great debates about the management of little urchins—Mrs A.K. would not attend to what I said because I was *quite too cruel*—she thinks she shall be just perfection between

her two sisters, and I think Mrs Charles Paget's method will be nearer perfection than hers—She is very patient and firm with them, and does not stuff them with sweet things, which as I was not allowed myself I suppose I do not like to see allowed other children—I staid nearly a fortnight with Mrs C. Paget who lives at Ruddington near Nottingham—I went twice to Chapel there and was lucky enough to hear two excellent sermons from Mr Carpenter, and one day we dined with the Attenburrows—-Miss A. amused me with the relation of the account Count Puchis gave Mrs R. Martineau and Miss Needham of his wife—Miss Maria Attenburrow was one of his best pupils—she is a very clever agreable woman—I only staid three days at Loughborough, Mrs White said I ought to stay longer for I did not know how useful I might make myself to Mrs Charles Paget in her approaching confinement! so I explained to her that we did not chuse the state of single blessedness for the sake of nursing all our female friends who chose to get married and I did not intend to offer my services beyond my own family. I think my little niece is losing her beauty fast she is so very busy with her teeth, but when she has cut these two eye teeth perhaps her good looks and her spirits will return—she did not forget father or mama in their absence, and grandmama's a great favourite with her. I suppose you will be very busy with Italian when you are with my cousin George—I perceive Marianne is much come on in her reading with him, and we find it rather hard work to get our lessons ready when there are so many agreable people to occupy our attention—I don't at all like to think of Mrs Reid and Mrs Boult going—Mrs B. asks me to come to Liverpool next winter, but I cannot bear the thoughts of a winter in Liverpool—I should be sick to death of their parties. I do not think I shall go to Varteg till quite the autumn now—Perhaps I may return with George—I shall have made a long stay at home. Mrs Reid must tell all news—we shall miss her lively agreable accompany—I must just tell you that I think Mrs B. and Mrs R. are both grown uncommonly like Aunt

Parry. when I first saw Mrs B. I almost thought I was speaking to aunt P. farewell and believe me

your ever affectionate cousin

R.K.

REBECCA TO LUCY

Springfields, July, 1830

My dear Lucy

I cannot let another opportunity pass without sending my thanks for your long letter from Dawlish, though I have been so busy finishing a collar for my sister Anne to go to Birmingham in to-morrow morning that I have only left myself after supper for writing. I have been dining at the lower house and Marianne has been drinking tea with me; of course I could not help playing with the *children* because Emma looked so pretty and so funny and Arthur was so good and fat I could tumble him about as I liked—Miss Emma cannot quite reconcile herself to my devoting much attention to baby, she is not much used to it yet, but the youth is such a nice age for nursing that I begin to take a violent fancy to him. Anne is going to take Emma to call at Calthorpe Place to-morrow. I quite long to see the meeting between her and Charley I expect they will fight. Marianne and I had settled to take our niece before we found mama was going and we rather wish she had been going with us because we flatter ourselves she behaves better amongst strangers with us than with Mama—Sometimes she will not stir from her side, but her affection for aunts is less violent and she can manage to be sociable with others. Charles is a nice well-behaved intelligent little fellow, but so shy I dare not offer to touch him yet. Harriet and Mr Wreford seem never tired of watching him, he will be a constant amusement to them. Letitia, Harriet and Charles were to come here while Mr W. went to Bristol, but Mr Kentish is so *nonsensical* and faddy that I don't know when it may suit his reverence to let him go. I think Mr Wreford gives way to him too much and the more he

submits, the more he requires—I occasionally indulge in a tirade against Mr Kentish's domineering temper so you must excuse it in consideration of the deal of good it does me. I am sorry indeed to hear poor little Mary has had any return of the former illness. This will renew all Mrs Reid's anxiety about her, she seemed to have been so well lately that we were in hopes she was outgrowing it. Marianne tells me you are charmed with your cottage and that your charge is already benefitted by the new residence. How was it my cousin George was not back in time to add his share of information about foreign parts at the Association? We have not seen Mrs John James Taylor yet but we mean to call this week, if a fine hour or two is to be had. What a melancholy state Mrs Weymouth is in! I am quite grieved to think of her—I hope and trust she may be spared the painful disease which seems to threaten her. You must have had your summer in Devonshire, there appears no weather in store for us like that you enjoyed there—I was glad to hear of Charles Weymouth's being so happily settled, that is the only bright spot for poor Mrs Weymouth now. Our Varteg scheme seems to be laid aside for the present I don't know whether Marianne and I may go towards autumn—Samuel will not be able to go with Marianne anywhere this summer—I think Varteg would do her a good deal of good and if she liked to go from Bristol to Ilfracombe afterwards she could easily do it. But this is merely something that has crossed our minds this evening. there is some talk of my returning with Anne Wellbe to York at the end of the vacation. My father and mother will be at home in a month but I cannot see how all my journeyings are to be brought in, for I don't like leaving my niece long enough for her to forget me, and I am a little afraid of having to come home by Liverpool if I go to York—Timothy has been spending a fortnight at Varteg and I went to Worcester for the same time—The country is so rich and beautiful there, I have not seen flowers grow so luxuriantly since I was in Devonshire—I had the satisfaction of being more completely drenched than I

thought I ever should be, in ascending Breedon Hill, a mile or two beyond Pershore—It was that wet friday when we had such a thunderstorm at night—We walked through long grass in heavy rain, our legs were wet above our knees and shawls and bonnets drenched from the droppings of the umbrella—however we had some very beautiful views before the shower came and if we had not had bad colds after we should have thought ourselves well repaid. I think Samuel though not as happy as we could wish is in a much less uncomfortable state of mind than he was a few months ago. I understand he is going to write to you. I wish he had some male friend at hand whose judgement he could rely upon—But he has no one but Marianne to talk over business with—It is much better that he should open his mind to her than keep it all to himself—But still it is wearing to her—he so often thinks one or other looks cold or sly on him and is so surprised Marianne cannot see it—When he has got all his men together and fairly began his work I think he will be a good deal happier. But that is a sore point with him and I do believe that some of the men who have been turned off from here (because they had engaged with him and consequently neglected their present job) have been making tales—I feel sure Archibald was never goose enough to say what one of them said he did, but Samuel believes it. I make a point of asking no questions of either party for I should only be doing mischief—Our cousins of Wrexham with their brother William are gone to Scotland to pay Miss Woodrow a visit. Mr Stevenson has been very poorly of late a tendency of blood to the head and he was very untractable and would not be bled—However, he is going to London this week to attend Mrs Robinson's funeral and he consented to be blooded this morning preparatory to his leaving home and is much relieved already. Sarah is middling they are all going to the sea shortly—Mrs Stevenson has another boy—Give my love to Mrs Reid and believe me ever your affectionate

R. KENRICK

REVD. JOHN KENRICK TO HIS UNCLE ARCHIBALD

To Archibald Kenrick Esq.
Springfields.

York May 13. 1831

My dear Uncle

I was very glad to receive your letter by Rebecca, which I avail myself of her return to answer, and I hope that in future our correspondence may be carried on at rather shorter intervals than it has been latterly. You are now I suppose comparatively a man of leisure, a new character for you, as you have no longer the active management of the Varteg, and Timothy and Archibald divide between them the fag of the W. Bromwich concern. The prospect of such a season of leisure towards the decline of life, is one of the strongest motives to a man to go steadily on year after year with the drudgery of business; indeed without it, the complete absorption of many men's minds in the affairs of the world, in the early and middle part of life would be hardly justifiable. Such an interval, enjoyed while the faculties are yet entire, and none of the principal infirmities of age have come on, gives an opportunity to reflect on the past and look seriously forward to the future, and it is well purchased by laborious exertions in younger life. One of the most pleasing occupations of the thoughts at such a period is to look back not only on the various events of private life, but on the wonderful changes of public affairs, and when these exhibit such an extraordinary and rapid improvement as they have done with us in the last few years, it is no small ground of thankfulness to have been allowed to live to witness it. Except the age in which the Reformation took place, I doubt if any in modern times exhibits such changes as the last 40 years. But indeed this is saying very little, for even since the date of your letter to me, the promulgation of the Reform bill and its results have carried us forward with a velocity that is quite astonishing, and as the power seems likely to be a permanent one, we may

anticipate an uninterrupted progress in the same road. At the time when you wrote to me, though we were all looking out for some great improvement in the representation, in consequence of the accession of the Whigs to power, the most sanguine I suppose never dreamt of so great and thorough a change of the system, on which Whigs as well as Tories had hitherto built their power. But Lord Grey no doubt saw, that the time was come, when a Whig party resting on borough influence could have no permanence and would indeed be more unpopular than a Tory party, from the inconsistencies which must appear between their principles and their practice. I remember to have heard from Mr. Belsham, that after the Whigs had been turned out in 1807, he and some other of the dissenting ministers of London had been invited to dine with Lord Grey (Howick then) and the leaders of the party, at Serjeant Heywood's, and that after dinner Dr Lindsay, who was remarkable for his freedom of speech said to Lord H. "you were rightly served my Lord in being turned out, for you did nothing for the people—you did nothing for parliamentary reform" to which his Lordship replied that his wishes were unchanged in that matter, but that his ministry would have been turned out immediately if he had attempted such a thing. This no doubt was true with George III on the throne, and the Tory party in such force as they then were. And had they not brought forward reform now, if they could have stood their ground through the reign of William IV, a change in the government would probably have brought the Tories back into power. We have just heard today of the defeat of Colonel Lygon in Worcestershire and our pleasure is not a little increased by the circumstance that Robert Scott has taken so active a part in it, and really has no small share of the merit. Here the anti-reformers did not venture to show themselves, and 4 reformers have been returned without a struggle. I am sorry to see that the old leaven of servile dependency on a great family still remains in the Welsh counties, and the bad example of Montgomeryshire and Denbigh-

shire seems to have had a contagious effect on Shropshire. I was amused too at the very humble manner in which Lord Granville Somerset was requested by his Monmouthshire constitutents to think the matter over again and if he could not support the bill at least to abstain from opposing it. The men of wool in Yorkshire are not half so gentle as the men of iron in South Wales. One naturally thinks what are to be the fruits of that reform, the carrying of which now appears certain, and while some look forward to the abolition of one monopoly and some of another, my great hope is that some modification in the national Church must be among the results and also in the present system of the Universities. Many dissenters will find their way into parliament by the [blank] in its constitution and those who are not professedly dissenters will very generally be churchmen free from clerical influence. There is a strong and growing feeling within the Church itself that its duties and emoluments are most unequally divided, and that it is disgraced and injured by the worldly mindedness of its higher dignitaries. It is a pity that the evangelical clergy, who are in general serious believers in the doctrines of their church and exemplary in their discharge of duty, are at the same time so bigoted and intolerant, but they will be influenced by the more liberal feelings of the world at large, and the altered spirit of the ruling powers.

You will find Rebecca return to you a great geologist. She has been attending Mr. Phillips lectures on this fashionable subject, and can not only tell the difference between granite and gneiss, but give you the history of the world before the Flood and even before the Creation. Phillips is now in London delivering a course of lectures before the London University—if he comes to Birmingham in the Autumn as there is some talk of his doing, for a similar purpose, you will be much gratified by hearing him. In clearness and fluency I think I never knew any public Lecturer who equalled him. I was sorry to hear of the misfortunes that have befallen *your* Phillips—how do Birmingham men contrive

to fail for £200,000? They used to be content with a 10th part of that sum.

I beg my kind love to my Aunt & cousins and remain

My dear Uncle

Your affectionate nephew

John Kenrick.

REBECCA KENRICK TO HER BROTHER TIMOTHY

Varteg, June 24th, 1833

My dear Timotheus as I guess there will be no further news from home now I may as well write and inform you when we intend having the pleasure of seeing you. I assure you West Bromwich appears a tremendous way off at present, it is so long since I have been there—and though I shall be very sorry to leave Varteg I shall be monstrous glad to feel settled at home again—I begin to pine for my piano too. Samuel sent us word he should send a parcel last week and would let Springfields know, so that I was hoping for some intelligence, however, there was not a word about any of you. My father and mother departed last Wednesday and were wondering they had no tidings about the carriage and ponies—I told them if they heard nothing to the contrary of course they would come as ordered. Your father set off in capital spirits, but your poor mother had been put sadly out of temper the day before by your sister and I going to the school in the morning and not returning till dinner-time, and we had asked her what we could do for her before starting and considered the afternoon quite sufficient time to perform her behests in—However, she took it so to heart that we should go to school that day of all days in the year as she expressed it, that she could not recover herself—if it had not been for this untoward event she would have got over the packing wonderfully, for it was all done by 4 o'clock except the tin box which I was to do, and I had not seen her so well since we came as she had been in the morning. That

Williams proves a consummate scoundrel, but the stories of his lies and backwards and forwards work between Hunt and Varteg Co. is too long for a letter. He actually signed a written agreement with both parties! and Hunts and Kenricks were on the point of an explosion if Mr Needham had not taken advantage of his intimacy with both parties to bring the dispute to a happy conclusion by inducing Hunts to give up the creature to his proper owners—George says Williams has been going on well the last week—All this business teazed and mortified my father sadly, as you may suppose—I think it made George bilious too for he has not been quite well for this fortnight and obliged to indulge in blue pills not unfrequently. We have had very unsettled cold weather of late which has interfered with our rides. We were talking of going on the Blorange all last week but only accomplished it on Saturday when the wind was so high that we were in danger of being blown off our horses—and the fear of rain only allowed us time to eat our lunch quickly and then we remounted and rode back as fast as we could. We were ready to mount the day before but George grew too giddy to stand so after waiting a little for his recovery, we went on the mountain a short distance by ourselves and came down into the railroad by that pretty valley opposite the Rising Sun. Sarah and Maria Smith came on Friday. They are both looking well but were tolerably tired for they had previous to starting on their journey, seen all London in 2 days! My feats are not to be mentioned in the same year. The Smith family, Sarah Kenrick and Swanwick dined here yesterday on which occasion we celebrated the birthday of our eldest Niece and youngest brother being an intervening day between the two birthdays. This evening the Smiths and ourselves drink tea at Mr Needhams to-morrow we dine at my uncles, and the next day if fine George is bent on taking us and 2 Smiths to Carphilly Castle, where we shall drink to the memory of poor little Tim. Thursday is to be a day of rest and packing—Friday we are to go by the Paul Pry to Cheltenham, Saturday

home by the Cheltenham coach which gets to the Swan by four o'clock. Is not Varteg grown a gay place? George is continued giving dinners. On Thursday Mr Needham and my aunt dined here. Oh and I must not omit to [say] how handsomely Mr Needham treated us. We had fish and soup first—ducks and stewed beef second—pudding and tart third—a bottle of Burgundy and ditto of milk punch on the table,—napkins and dinner rolls—it passed off pretty well considering we waited an hour and a quarter for our dinner and that my father grew very sleepy in consequence—we were asked to eat our mutton with him to-day but we prefered tea. George is making up his mind that when the Miss Needhams come he must ask them to dine here, and as Mr N. has done the civil by him he must return it. Marrianne's stomach has not been so well as usual this day or two and she was not able to go to chapel yesterday but she is better to-day. When my father takes leave the congregation diminishes a little. The presence of his daughters has made my uncle talkative, he showed a great talent for silence before. Little Swanwick is a stupid little animal, he does nothing except laugh, and his laughing fits almost amount to convulsions. Did Arch. go his Derbyshire tour last week I wonder—not very favourable weather for it. I think the Cheltenham coach does not stay at Worcester so that we shall not have the opportunity of calling to enquire after Mrs J. Parker. Give our love at the lower house not forgetting the chicks. Maria has given me a book for Emma all about a little girl of the same name. Will you tell Sam Reid to have the horses up and exercised in the carriage every day—let him know when his aunt is coming, they need not send to meet her as we shall come on in a car. George sends his compliments.

Your affectionate sister,

R.K.

Addressed: G. S. Kenrick
and Smith Esqrs.
Varteg Iron Works,
Monmouthshire.

Worthy Gentlemen,

We the Welch Calvinistic Methodist Assembling to day at Tabernacle Meeting-House for our religious performances, of whom many of our assembly are and wish to be your obedient and dutiful servants and subjects, do hereby with one accord address you this day most Humble and thankfull, for your kind and tender charity toward our cause and nessecity at this present meeting, showing so much charity to allow grass for our Minister's Horses.

So we conclude with a sincere thanksgiving to you gentlemen, praying the Allmighty for you be blest in both your Persons and all your affairs temporal and spiritual
here and hereafter
sighned by JOHN BOWEN and
his Brother ministers.

September 25th 1833.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK JNR. TO HIS WIFE

W. Bromwich Aug.21st 1834

My dear Anne

I received your letter on Monday night at Needhams as we were going to dinner and left Varteg the next morning, so I have been quite in a bustle ever since. I got here yesterday afternoon and found the children better than I expected from your letter. Emma is looking very thin and is certainly much pulled down but Arthur and William did not seem near so much affected and I left them this morning enjoying their play as if nothing was the matter. William I suppose is scarcely at the worst yet they were both sick several times. William was awakened by a violent

fit of coughing on Tuesday and Rebecca observing something peculiar about him examined him and found that the bowell had come down a very little Mr Patterson luckily came in soon afterwards and took his measure for a truss which I hope we shall have to-morrow William's will do for George and I have decided as soon as the coughing comes on with him, that it may be put on. he has had no more of the feverish attack since you left and I found him running about and as merry as a cricket. I believe the wash is going on as well as could be expected under such adverse circumstances and they are to finish to-day Mrs Luckcock I believe you know is unwell. Patterson says he is afraid in the same way as her brother was. My Father seems very quiet since his return from Liverpool (I suppose the attack of bowell complaint which he had has weakened him) otherwise he seems well, and now I must tell you something of my own proceeding We had a very pleasant journey to Gloucester and had no difficulty as far as our dogs were concerned the other passengers being very civil but the coach was so small in front that Bond found it convenient to sit upon the luggage and I stood up most of the time—we did not carry into effect our plan of walking any part of the way from Gloucester but instead of that took a Dickey Chaise put the four dogs inside drew up the blinds and rode ourselves outside. I assure you we created quite a commotion wherever we stopped on the Gentlemen being let out, but the most amusing part of the business was to see the eagerness of the dogs to get into the chaise when we started, they did not stop for the doors being opened but made their way through the windows. We got to Raglan late on Sunday night, took our time to see the castle the next morning and then went on to Abergavenny where we had to wait two or three hours for John who having started by a five o'clock coach from Worcester did not get in till half past two having come at the rate of five miles in the hour including stoppages. we found George quite ready to receive us, and he set before us what John pronounced the best salmon he ever tasted,

indeed he treated us most handsomely the whole time we staid, we went to bed very early that we might rest but Bond could not sleep the whole night unfortunately. The birds were very thin and must have disappointed his enthusiasm much, though he did not say so, but I believe we none of us had better appetites in our lives, and we have come away fatter in spite of the hard work, we killed 12 brace in all—and were on the hills the first four days without being obliged to lie by. I am very glad you are gone from home though I should have wished to have taken you if possible but I must be content to bring you home again, does your Father come to the oratorio we must think of engaging sittings as it is expected to be very fully attended. My love to all inquiring friends and believe me Yours very affectionately

A. KENRICK jnr.

Addressed:

Mrs A. Kenrick
William Paget Esqre.
Southfield
Loughborough.

ARCHIBALD KENRICK JNR. TO HIS WIFE

August 25. 1834

. . . . . Needham and George had often talked of a bivouac on the hills and the former happened to mention it on Sunday week—I caught at the idea and it was soon arranged that we should sleep that night on the hill in order to be ready for the last day's sport on Monday. accordingly we sallied out about half past nine, walked up the hill and got into a narrow sheltered ravine with a stream of water running through it to sing lullaby to us, very composedly eat some sandwiches smoked a cigar took our whiskey and water and lay down on the Heather each enveloped in two coats or clokes and went to sleep as soon as we could. the greatest inconvenience I felt was from the excessive warmth produced by my careful wrapping. I had taken up in addition a long

cotton night shirt which I put on under my coat and waistcoat, the best of the joke was that we were too late for the hill we meant to visit though up by four and had the mortification to see another party flush the birds we were in pursuit of and drive them out of bounds, but they did not kill any, the grubs. The family from Springfield went to dine with Fosbury on Thursday and had a very pleasant party considering there were four young ladies who had not left off bread and butter, they are coming to Bromwich on Tuesday week and will meet Mr and Mrs Pearson who remain with my Father two or three days as I shall be at Beoly on Monday and tuesday I can't meet them. Mr Bache preached yesterday and gave us a regular 1642 sermon with many exhortations to be steadfast in the faith, and he delivered a good address at the sacrament afterwards. I had the pleasure of standing outside nearly the whole of Mr Kentish's long prayers, being rather too late and not aware it was sacrament Sunday. I am sorry I cannot accept George's Invite for the first but I have promised to take Ty. over to Beoly and have besides a great desire to see what will turn up on *our Manor*, when do you talk of coming over again, and when am I to see after you—with love to all friends, believe me yours very affectionately

A KENRICK jnr.

SAMUEL KENRICK TO HIS SISTER

West Bromwich 19th December 1834

My dear Lucy

I calld a few days ago on Miss Hawkes to ask her to pay us a visit in her Christmas holidays and I found that she was intending to set out for London on Monday next & spend all her holidays with her friends there and in the neighbourhood so that I am afraid that we shall not see her at all. I take the opportunity of writing to you for I wish to know under your own hand how you are. I heard about ten days ago from Mr. Reid & he then gave a

good account of your health I hope that you will continue pretty well through the winter. I calld a few days ago at the Laurels, but I did not see Miss Smith as she had gone out in an airing. Before Mrs. Osler went to Ireland she and Miss Smith calld upon Marianne for there was then no probability of her soon being able to call upon them. I hear that they are to move from the Laurels next week. Mr. Hy Smith got into his new house last week to get it ready for his sister.

Marianne has written to you & she will have informed you that she has had some violent attacks of her spasmodic affection lately. Mr. Wynter accounts for their violence in a way which leads me not to fear their return with so much violence. Rebecca is here a great deal & waits upon Marianne and I wait upon Rebecca in writing notes for her & reading to her. I have to write important notes for her to her mother on the subject of housekeeping & the provision to be made for Christmas festivities. In general I have given satisfaction but yesterday I unfortunately expressed myself in such ambiguous terms that mother thought Rebecca wishd to have a Turkey drest with its feathers on.

Rebecca sits by the fire (of an evening) with her green shade on & knits, she flattered herself that she should have been able to have sent you a bit of a note by Miss Hawkes to give you her best love and say how kind she thought your letter and how glad to hear of the benefit you and Mrs. Reid have received from your visit to the seas but her eyes have taken a bad fit and she dares not try to use them so much. She is much obliged to Mrs. Reid and you for your sympathy and condolence in her purblind condition but (she desires me to tell you) that the assistance which I have given her in conducting her correspondence has made her less sensible of her misfortune.

She is just now busily engagd in settling our 2 new servants into the ways of the house for you must know that our maid Mary was married on Tuesday last. If her good man is as much

delighted at getting her as I am at getting rid of her I think she may rely upon his affections. On the evening before, she took leave of her friends by inviting them to tea from Miss Stevensons, the 2 Springfields & Mrs Hoods & also Parsons who was to drive her to Handworth Church in his Car next morning. She has lately behavd with a great deal of kindness to Marianne so I have forgiven her bad behaviour to me. Marianne made her a present of our old Tea Caddie, a Tea Tray & Tea Set. She & her husband are to dine here on Christmas day.

The longest job on which Rebecca has employed me has been the writing from her dictation the Annual Report of the Provident & Dorcas Society, it was not Rebecca's business to write it but she had to do it at very short notice in consequence of the Secretary declining the task. When drawn up it was read to the Committee & they made some alteration in it & it was supposd to be agreed upon. Poor Mrs. Hood the Treasurer could not make her Cash account right, she tried at it all one evening but could not unravel the mystery, she went to bed late, but could not get a wink of sleep, the General Meeting was to be held next day so she got up at two oclock in the morning & remaind up puzzling over her accounts till eight when Mr. Hood got up & took the matter in hand, after some time he found out that Mrs. H. had entered 15/ as Fifteen Pounds! I was askd to attend the Meeting which I promisd to do if they would not expect me to take any public part in it. The Meeting was to be at the Boys National School in the next street. I was at the News Room when Rebecca came in breathless haste to fetch me to read the Report as the gentleman who was to have done so had not arrivd and her father was as hoarse as a crow. When it has been read a Motion made & seconded that it should be adopted, up got together 3 or 4 ladies of the Committee to make objections to the Report which they had agreed to do the day before, this made some confusion all the ladies had arisn & left their seats to discuss the points which they did in a very animated way. For about half

an hour there was nothing but confusion Mr. Townsend the Chairman several times calld upon the ladies to attend to the business before them, at last he suggested a little alteration by way of compromise. When putting the amended resolution to the Vote it was found that the shew of hands was equal both for & against. The Chairman gave his vote in favour of our side. Our Chairman had a great [deal] of difficulty to ascertain how many hands were held up. One lady held up her hand & I saw her neighbour pull it down again.

After the Meeting was over it was found that 2 of the Committee had voted against their own Report, Mrs. Wagstaff had voted against her conscience, that she might be "a good neighbour" to Mrs. Hood, & Mrs Townsend had voted against her husband.

When Mrs. Harper found that we had gaind the point she exclaimd as she advancd to the table where the Chairman was, I dont care what you vote I'll do as I like in my District. Mam, says our Master, advancing on the other side of the table in a great Puff, amongst men the Minority allways submit to the Majority. I dont care what *you* do retorts Mrs. Harper, but the altercation was carried no farther.

We have been stirring here too in Election matters in order to secure the return of our present members Sir John Wrottesly and Mr. Littleton. About 3 weeks ago my uncle and I determind we would call a private meeting to consider what was to be done so I calld a Meeting at a private house of those who were to be depended upon. There was one Tory, a friend of Mr. Littltons 5 or 6 Radicals & my uncle and I. We came to an agreement that we would all act together & have a more numerous Meeting in a few days. The next day I sent a paragraph to the Globe Newspaper to the effect that the "leading Whigs & Radicals had agreed at a meeting held at West Bromwich to unite together . . . and I added that "an Address to his Majesty

privately got up here thanking him for the dismissal of his ministers was only regard[ed] by a miserable remnant of the Church & King Faction". I added my name with injunction of secrecy on the Editor.

Archibald Kenrick died in 1835, and the following notice appeared in the *Birmingham Journal* of 7th November:

"The death of this gentleman was recorded in our last obituary, but in our apprehension there was sufficient material in his life and character to call for further notice. It falls as we conceive within the legitimate functions of a JOURNALIST, thus to preserve the remembrance of the useful and the good departed, that 'being dead, they may yet speak,' for the benefit of those who remain.

Mr. Kenrick was descended from a family of considerable antiquity and high respectability in the Principality, several individuals of which have filled with credit, situations of some eminence in the commercial and literary world. His own adult life of active, constant exertion, extended through upwards of half a century of the most stirring incident and change,—political, moral, and commercial,—perhaps, of any period of similar extent which the history of man displays. He came to Birmingham young and enterprising about the year 1780, and near the time when Priestley, of whom it is now no longer criminal or hazardous to speak, as the benefactor of his species—the wise, the good, the celebrated,—commenced his residence in this place. Mr. Kenrick, attached to the congregation over which the Doctor was pastor, and standing on a footing of relationship with some of his family connections, was immediately received as a frequent and welcome visitant. This beneficial intercourse subsisted till the period of the disastrous occurence which deprived this town of the honour of numbering the sage and the philosopher among her residents; but the high privilege of such intimacy was ever appreciated and acknowledged by Mr. Kenrick, who on almost every occasion when his experience was appealed to seemed able

to attach some influence to the counsels and admonitions he then enjoyed, as bearing upon his own conduct in after life. The progress of Mr. K. was not uninterrupted. His early undertakings, as a manufacturer, received a check and, for a time, his prospects were clouded; but his native energy and perseverance overcame the obstacles, he entered on new pursuits, and continued success attended his efforts. His after-prosperity was not, however, the result of what are called Lucky Combinations, but the fairly won meed of indefatigable industry, unimpeachable integrity, deep thought and constant attention to every mode of improving the operations of the manufacture in which he was engaged. He witnessed and watched the rapid advance of science, and, with a discerning spirit, seized and profitably applied the advantages it offered in his line of business. He was diligent—diligent in every sense of the word, physically and intellectually,—and the 'hand of the diligent' received its reward. Thus, enabled to purchase himself seasons of leisure and relaxation, Mr. Kenrick showed himself capable of enjoying them. He presented a rare instance of close and persevering industry exerted for many years in the creation of a trade and the accumulation of property, without any injury to his character as a member of society. His wealth was obtained by long and powerful efforts, but it was freely dispensed when utility presented her unquestioned claims or when charity showed that her demands might be listened to with beneficial effect.

In the relations of social and domestic life Mr. Kenrick was kind, considerate, attentive, and hospitable; indeed his mind and demeanour improved in amenity with his advancing years. He acquired, by observation rather than by reading a considerable share of information. His recollection of the men, the manners, and the events of the past century was vivid and accurate, so that his conversation, to an enquiring listener, was peculiarly interesting, both as regards his reminiscences and his speculations.

Nor was he backward to assist any plans for the improvement of the mass of the people, either as to their condition, or as to

their means of procuring knowledge. Sunday Schools and other establishments for diffusing education; Provident Institutions, and similar modes of producing beneficial effects to the families of the industrious, by the accumulation of small means, met in him a liberal, zealous and efficient supporter; and he was ever ready to address individuals belonging to such Associations in the language of friendly encouragement dictated by experience.

His public and political conduct was marked by an undeviating adherence to the most liberal views. The rapidly advancing course of the events of the last four years, gave a new impetus to his energies and at an age past the average limit of human life he was seen exerting himself in urging forward the great cause of reform, and of enlightened and beneficial policy, with all the ardour and vivacity of his more youthful associates.

The last illness of Mr. Kenrick was short, and from the first, evidently dangerous. It seized him suddenly in the midst of a series of active occupations. But he murmured not,—he suffered not his lips to utter an expression,—he tutored his mind so as not to suffer it to feel an emotion of impatience. His deportment throughout was that of a christian and philosopher. Never unprepared, he was ready for his change whenever it should come; yet he desired to live because he was surrounded by the means of rational enjoyment, sweetened by domestic endearments and social intercourse, and by the consciousness of the value of his life to others. He was therefore calm and cheerful—he discoursed freely and inquired closely, concerning his situation; with a tranquil and elastic spirit he reasoned on his case, and disputed inch by inch the advances of the enemy; and his quiet and easy collectedness of manner was infinitely preferable to the extatic flights of enthusiasm,—was far more dignified than the obtrusive levity of affected heroism and studied indifference. The mode of his departure was in many respects happy. His career of action was, it is true, stopped, but he was not 'cut off' in the midst of his course. He had done his work and done it well. His

lengthened journey was brought to its termination without a previous stage of suffering, and of unwilling and unwonted inactivity. He was favoured in being summoned to retire from the post he had so long and so worthily filled, without being required to prove by painful experience the added toils which attend and sadden 'months of weariness'.

W. H. S."

On the flyleaf of a reprint is written:

My dear Arthur

I present you with this just memoir of your dear grand Papa, with an earnest wish (when you can understand it) that you will sometimes read it, at least once every year, and that you will as you grow older endevour to be good, and to do good, that you may like your grand Papa be for ever happy.

I am Dear Arthur
your affectionate
grand mama
Mary Kenrick

Spring Fields
West Bromwich
December 25th-1835

Timothy Kenrick married in 1837 Maria Paget, daughter of Thomas Paget of Leicester. She was a first cousin of Anne Paget, wife of Archibald Kenrick the younger.

George Smith Kenrick married in 1836 Eliza Bowman, daughter of John Eddowes Bowman of Nantwich, but she died in 1837. She was a cultured woman and a skilled needlewoman. Specimens of her embroidery are still extant.

MRS. ARCHIBALD KENRICK JR. TO HER SISTER-IN-LAW REBECCA

Buck Hill Cottage, July 10, 1837

My dear Rebecca

Through some delay I duly received Archibald's letter informing me of your very kind wish that Emma should join your party at the sea, last night. I lose no time in thanking you for

it, and cordially accepting the offer, and have already written to Bromwich desiring she may be got ready immediately if her Aunt Marianne can make it convenient to take her. She is already much stronger for her sojourn here, but I think the opportunity of sending a growing girl to the sea must on no account be lost, and I am excedingly obliged to you for thinking of it. Yesterday morning my Mother sent me up a letter that reached Loughbro' the evening before from Archibald to say that Emma and Arthur had been tossed out of Samuel's pony gig owing to the wheels locking. Emma was not hurt, but poor Arthur very sadly bruised indeed all down the outside of the thighs and legs, his back, elbow and hand and had lost his little toe nail; Archibald sent for Mr Wynter immediately, he ordered leeches to one bruise and fomentations to the others and gave him opening and fever medecines. Of course this alarmed me and I determined to return home to-day if the next post did not bring a favourable account; but I am thankful to say in less than two hours after receiving this, William White rode up with another letter just received by the morning's post, saying that the poor little fellow was doing well and that I need not be under any anxiety about him, his toe is not injured except the loss of the nail and the leeches and fomentations had subdued the bruises—I am so thankful that Archibald was at home to foment him himself, for he says it was done thoroughly and we know he manages it so much better than anybody else can. He says Arthur bore it very well; when his Papa took him out of the men's arms that carried him at the gate the poor child said "he had never been so abused before." as his Papa adds I hope he never will again. I have proposed to Archibald if he is able to bear the journey to bring him here again next Sunday for a week's change for it will of course pull him down, it was lucky that he was in such very good health before. Misfortunes never come alone is an old adage and really seems a true one. The evening's post brought me my good husband's first written letter with your kind invitation to Emma, and an account

of Eliza having been thrown out of a gig and very much bruised, and that she had so much fever that George had written quite in a state of alarm. But she had been bled three times and they had heard the morning he wrote that she was much better and George hoped safe again. How very much, dear Rebecca, have we to thank God for, who has been pleased to preserve our dear brother and sister and the two dear children through such serious accidents as they have had with the cow and the gigs. How little do we know what a day may bring forth and how solicitous it ought to make us to be found watching whether our Lord shall come in the first or the second or the third watch; fill our hearts with gratitude and love for all the goodness Oh God! We have had a delightful month here and are all of us the better for it. I think I could enjoy another very much with the variety of going down to Loughbro' for a day now and then and our friends coming here occasionally. I am sure we shall never think of staying at home when anything is done at the house again if this cottage is to be had for the asking—I only want my good husband here to make it everything that is delightful, and I can manage two pretty good strolls in the day, and even when I merely sit still in this room I was so hungry all day I could eat anything. To-morrow we go down to Loughbro' *for good* (quite ridiculous) dividing ourselves between our Mother and Mary. Wednesday William and Mary White and I spend at Sutton. I have seen George several times and Sophia and little Eliza once; they are all well and the little girl a nice lively child as can be. Miss Byerley and Miss Thompson (not Kate) have been spending the last week with Fanny. we have seen them several times and after I got over my recollection of her being the essence of politeness herself and expecting it in others, enjoyed their company very much. they came up here for tea on Saturday and we had a very nice ramble. Miss Byerley desired I would remember her very kindly to you, she is gone to Derby to-day where Mr and Miss Coltman meet the party and they two ladies stay a short time with them and go to Liverpool.

I fear Mrs Lowndes is considerably worse than Miss Whitby: the fluid is in two sacs so that only one side can be relieved at a time and she is so weak that she is obliged to lie upon a sofa all day; she is trying short sea voyages again. Archibald could not tell me when he was here whether Mr and Miss Wellbeloved are going with you to the sea, or where you and Marianne are going but I suppose it is all fixed by this time, I hope your friends will accompany you I know it will be such an additional pleasure to all your party. Please to remember me very kindly to Mr and Miss W. and to Mr and Mrs Kenrick if they have not already left home.

I expect Archibald at Loughbro' next Sunday for a few days and then we all return home sometime that week according to the state the house is in. I am sure the premises ought to be much improved for there has been a great deal of dirt, labour and expense to put them in order. Archibald seems well satisfied with the alterations in the yard.

Miss Whitby enjoyed her visit here but it was sadly short. she was obliged to return three days under the fortnight—she has done well since. With best love and many thanks for your kindness, believe me dear Rebecca

Your affectionate sister
ANNE KENRICK

William desires his love and a kiss. Emma was delighted with Peter Parley.

Mary Byng's kind remembrances. You must excuse my disloyalty I have no black wax here.

This is addressed to
Miss Kenrick
Revd. Charles Wellbeloved
near Guisbourogh.

Family News

ARCHIBALD KENRICK TO HIS WIFE AT LOUGHBOROUGH

May 1848
West Bromwich Sunday

West Bromwich is quite Beautiful this afternoon there is no noise no smoke, and the air quite clear with a beautiful evening sun, & the flowers if one may be allowed the use of so large a word are magnificent, the old Rhododendrun though not so fine as it was last year has more than a hundred heads of blossom some of them large enough to fill the diameter of my hat in width, and the dark azaleas now in blossom are almost dazzling in the sun shine, in the houses though the cactuses are over the calceolarias and chinese azaleas are as gay as ever there is a beautiful cattleya Mossiae with nine large blossoms open before which you might sit for half an hour with great satisfaction and the oleanders are fuller of blossom than I ever remember though the blossoms are not quite so fine as when the plants were younger the Geraniums promise to be very [good?] some time next week so you will not miss every thing that is supposing you came at that time. I am much obliged to Mrs Tebbut for her invitation and it will give me much pleasure if we can so manage as to avail ourselves of it. I do not know how long you mean to stay, but I think I could manage to come over on the Saturday and stay until Wednesday if desireable, by making arrangements before hand, I am happy to say that business is no worse than it has been, and I trust every week of this fine weather is an approximation to better times so you see that I am hopeful in spite of my disposition. Samuels affairs too do not appear quite so difficult as I expected some time back, there is so much that is gloomy and dangerous in the political world that one is glad to catch at any little sunshine. Timothy went over to Chester for the day on Friday and found my aunt quite wonderful for her age just 86, but very suspicious of persons about her and not in the least inclined to go into lodgings as he wished to persuade her to do, and I hear from

the Revd George that she marched before them all on Sunday to and from Chapel & had some persons to meet him and Mrs G Kenrick, The mention of them puts me in mind that we are full of gaiety on thursday I and my Brothers dined with Mr Udal and played at quoits in the afternoon the token of which I have now in my arm which is quite sore in one part He has just put up a green house & I have the commission to fill it with plants to my much satisfaction On Friday we drank tea at Handsworth to meet Mr & Mrs George Kenrick & Mrs Smith would have had us spend the Saturday evening with her but that I begged to decline on the plea of its being too much excitement On Wednesday we dine with Mrs Kentish and on Friday with Mrs James Hunt I suppose a sort of take leave of Hockley abbey On Wednesday morning we set off at six o clock to see Mrs Watts azaleas which were very fine indeed the object of starting so early was that we might be out of the grounds before any of the family was up Mr Watt being dangerously ill poor man he will never see his flowers again he is blind, I do not think I should have gone but that it was doubtful wether I should have another chance of shewing them to William we had a glorious morning and came back in great Spirits to a Muttonchop breakfast, by which you may measure Emmas anticipation of the difficulty of the enterprize. Caroline is not doing any thing with William and by Emmas account is not working too hard, I do not think a ride over to Birmingham three times a week likely to exaust Mr Willie although the weather is hot, but I advise him to begin to B the which I think he is doing. Peas I find have made their appearance in Birmingham Market they are only just in pod in my Garden but we had a handsome dish of potatoes today love to all

Yours
A Kenrick

REBECCA KENRICK TO HER BROTHER TIMOTHY AND HIS WIFE (MARIA PAGET)

YORK Feby. 9th 1858

My dear brother and sister, may you enjoy together many happy returns of the 10th of Feby. I thank God for the many blessings with which He has cheered and brightened the first 21 years of married life to you, nor less that he has led you by his various discipline to receive all these gifts as trusts from Him. The 21 years seem both a long period and a short period to me. When one thinks of the children who are grown up in the time it is long—May the next 21 years bring a rich harvest from the seed you have sown in the minds of the 9 young ones around you, and whose development and growth you are continually striving to stimulate. On the 4th of Feby. cousin John attained his 75th year. Tho' somewhat more venerable in the last 10 years he is still a brisk and sprightly young fellow—Busy and cheerful always.—His eyes are better again, but he is desired not to use them by candle light. He is just made a fellow of the Antiquarian Society—and is joint curator of the antiquities here with Mr Wellbe. It is curious to see how that antiquarian taste grows with years. Cousin John does not mean to write any more ancient history, he says it is impossible to write the Assyrian history with satisfaction at present, while these discoveries are in progress, Major Rawlinson may light upon something which would upset all he had written. Laetitia makes herself happy in her present lot and does not allow thoughts of future deprivation of sight to dwell in her mind. Happily the sight fails very slowly. Mr Wellbeloved is tolerable for him, he does not at present suffer from neuralgic pains, but poor man! he suffers much from nervous feeling and nervous depression. I hear Edith Talbot's wedding takes place to-morrow so that the 10th becomes a notable day for another happy pair I hope. Give me love to all the young ones and I hope they will have much enjoyment to-night. I should have liked to have seen them all, but as I can't be present

I am glad to hear Mary and Lucy Boult mean to look round on the festive scene and I shall hear of it all from them. I am glad to find there is a glimpse of a schoolmistress for us thro' Miss Clare Taylor's information. Laetitia begs her kind remembrance and best wishes to you both. Believe me ever my dearest Timothy and Maria,

Your truly attached and grateful sister

R. KENRICK

A few notes will carry the history of the families as far as is necessary.

Archibald Kenrick (died 1878) and Anne Paget (died 1864) had seven children:

Emma, born June 1828, died August 1914, married Howard Hutton;

John Arthur, born December 1829, died April 1926, married Clara Taylor, and had four sons and four daughters;

William, born June 1831, died July 1919, married Mary Chamberlain and had two sons and two daughters;

George, born 1833, died 1901 unmarried;

Herbert, born 1836, died an infant;

Caroline Mary, born 1834, died 1894 unmarried;

Harriet, born 1835, died 1863, married the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain and was the mother of the Rt. Hon. Sir Austen Chamberlain.

Timothy Kenrick (died 1885) and Maria Paget (died 1876) had nine children:

Emily, born 1838, died 1899, married Thomas Martineau;

Eliza Rebecca, born 1839, died 1913, married Henry Follett Osler;

Clara Maria, born 1841, died 1860 unmarried;

Archibald, born 1842, died 1919, married Emily Purdie Selman and had two sons and seven daughters;

Hubert, born 1843, died 1865 unmarried;

Alice, born May 1845, married Charles Gabriel Beale and is still living (1931);

Florence, born 1847, died 1875, married as second wife the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, and was the mother of the Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain;

Louisa, born 1847, died 1892 (twin sister with Florence), married Arthur Chamberlain;

George Hamilton, born 1850, still living unmarried in 1931. He was knighted by King Edward VII in 1909.

Of the other members of the family mentioned, Rebecca Kenrick died unmarried in 1891, Marianne in January 1888, her husband having died in December 1854. There were no children of the marriage.

The Revd. John Kenrick died in March 1877 at the age of 89. He was a fine scholar and keenly interested in archæology as is shown by his writings on Egypt and Phoenicia and by the care he gave to the department of antiquities in the Museum at York. His character and gifts made a deep impression on all who came in touch with him. Professor Mylne of Glasgow wrote in 1810: "John Kenrick has, ever since he appeared among us, stood in a place to which no rival approached. His mind, from the very first outset, seemed to be already matured in its powers and possessed of an extent of knowledge to which very few inquirers at any time of life have been able to reach. He thought, examined and composed like a practical and experienced scholar and inquirer." When he took his M.A. degree and left Glasgow there remained in the memory of his friends an image of purity, modesty and strength. After leaving Glasgow he undertook the Junior Tutorship in Manchester New College, York, teaching Classics, and Ancient and Modern History. He was away for a year from July 1819 to July 1820, travelling and studying in Germany, and then resumed his work. His scholarship was profound, and when the committees were about to be formed for the revision of the

translation of the Scriptures, the Dean of Westminster was surprised to learn that a scholar whose repute had been familiar to him in his college days, and whom he had placed in the same line with Blomfield and Thirlwall, was still living and ready to serve the interests of learning and religion. Further knowledge of the Revd. John Kenrick can be gained from the *Dictionary of National Biography*, and from a memoir by Dr. Martineau from which the above notes have been taken.

Lucy Kenrick married Timothy Smith of Birmingham in 1831, and died in 1877 aged 91. Her brother the Revd. George Kenrick died in 1874.

It is for the descendants of the Revd. John Kenrick of Wynne Hall to carry this history further if they so desire.

APPENDIX A

The Hamilton Pedigree

Archibald Hamilton of Raploch had two natural sons, Archibald and Hans, Vicar of Dunlop, as appears by their having a legitimation under the Great Seal in 1553. Hans Hamilton, born 1536, Vicar of Dunlop in Ayrshire, married Janet daughter of James Denholm of Westshiells, and had issue:

(1) James, first Viscount Claneboye, from whom came the Earls of Clanbrassil.
(2) Archibald Hamilton of Halecraig.
(3) Gavin, who had issue a son John, who was father of the Revd. Archibald Hamilton of Armagh.
(4) John Hamilton of Tullimore.
(5) William, father of James Hamilton of Bangor, Co. Down.
(6) Patrick, who had a son Alexander, who was father of Patrick Hamilton of Granshough.
(7) Jean, married to William Mure of Glanderston.

The Revd. Patrick Hamilton of Enderwick, East Lothian, may have been the Patrick Hamilton of Granshough mentioned above. He had a son Archibald who was born in 1619, M.A. of Glasgow in April 1637, minister at Sorbie, then at Wigton, at Bangor in Ireland, and then returned to Wigton and died there in 1695. He married in 1643, Jean daughter of James Hamiltown, an Edinburgh minister and had three sons: John (minister in Edinburgh), Archibald (minister of Corstorphine), and Henry (minister of Currie), and one daughter Mary. Archibald was born in 1658. Studied at Edinburgh and took his degree there in 1683. He was ordained to the Presbyterian Congregation of Wycombe, Bucks, in 1688, and was admitted as minister of Corstorphine in 1692.

APPENDIX B

The Paget and Byng Connection

Valerian Pagett was buried at Ibstock in the county of Leicester in 1580, he was probably a Huguenot refugee. From him there is a direct descent of Pagets of Ibstock in the male line. Joseph Paget of Ibstock (born 1700) married Joanna Alcock, and their second son, Joseph, married Mary Harding. Mary Harding's sister Charlotte married the Revd. John Byng, Minister of the Unitarian Chapel at Tamworth. Joseph and Mary Paget had four sons and four daughters. Three of the sons of Joseph Paget married daughters of John Byng; *i.e.* William married Mary Byng, known as "the amiable", Joseph married Ann Byng, and Thomas married, as his second wife, Elizabeth Byng.

William Paget was the father of Mrs. Archibald Kenrick of West Bromwich and Berrow Court, Edgbaston, who was married in 1826.

Thomas Paget was the father of Mrs. Timothy Kenrick of Maple Bank, Edgbaston, who was married in 1837.

It is not necessary to go further into the ramifications of the Paget family, but a word is needed about the Revd. John Byng. Nothing is known of his parentage and all efforts to discover his family history have been fruitless. It is known that he studied at the Academy at Daventry from 1763 to 1767 for five of his college essays are in existence, one being on the folly of Persecution on Religious or Ecclesiastical grounds. In his obituary notice the writer says: "A better testimony to his character in early life cannot be offered than the circumstance, that having when very young, attracted the attention of the excellent Mrs. Abney, he continued to enjoy in no small degree her friendship and esteem to the close of her life". It is surmised that this Mrs. Abney was Elizabeth, last surviving child and heiress of Sir Thomas Abney the patron of Isaac Watts. She died in 1782, aged 78. The Revd. John Byng was minister at Tamworth from 1768 to 1821 and

died in September 1827 in his eighty-first year. His descendants imagine that he must have cut himself adrift from his family on religious grounds and carefully obliterated all traces of his relationships.

The other circumstance of interest is the link with Thomas Guy who founded Guy's Hospital. He was a bachelor but he had two cousins, daughters of his father's sister Mrs. Blood. One of these cousins, Anne, married a Harding, and the other, Mary, married Arthur Alcock. Anne was the grandmother of Charlotte and Mary Harding, and Mary Alcock was the grandmother of Joseph Paget who married the aforesaid Mary Harding; while Charlotte married the Revd. John Byng. It is all very complicated. Thomas Guy left legacies to the children of Anne Harding and Mary Alcock. There are no living descendants in the male line of John and Charlotte Byng.

APPENDIX C

In the year 1899, there appeared from Waterbury, Connecticut, U.S.A., Mr. Greene Kendricke, intent upon searching out the history and connections of the Kenrick family. His father had corresponded with Samuel Kenrick of Birmingham in the earlier part of the century, on the same quest, and the results are so interesting that they deserve a place here.

Mr. Greene Kendricke wrote a long letter to the Rt. Hon. William Kenrick, Birmingham, in January 1901. The following extracts give the gist of the matter.

After writing of the emblazoned pedigree in the possession of Mr. Mascall Kenrick (of the Woore family) he goes on: "I have also a copy of a Pedigree in Latin by an old monk Chronicler, taking the line back from A.D.52 to B.C.1116, some 300 years before Rome was founded! and to Aeneas of Troy, son of King Anchises and Venus! This of course is mythical, important if true, but is very odd—and its quaint introduction in fairly good Latin defends its verity as being beyond assail or attack. In the line are two Roman Emperors, Maximus, and Constantine the Great, his mother St. Helena etc.! Think of writing ourselves Kenric ap Constantine, ap Helena, ap Aeneas ap Venus etc. etc. Seriously, though, I am now able to take *all* our lines back to a purely Welsh ancestry. Your own line headed by Edward Kenrick of Bersham (who owned the noted Talbot Inn of Wrexham and d. 1674) I have worked out—and it joins the Shropshire and Cheshire lines through his father John Kenrick of Wrexham (and Gwersyllt) 3 or 4 generations back in the 16th century. The Welsh way of carrying your own pedigree back beyond Edward K who d. 1674 at Wrexham—would be thus: Edward Kenrick of Wrexham, ab John Kenrick of Marchwiail, par Ruabon, ab Cynwrig of Marchwiail, ab Robert of Marchwiail ab Howell of Marchwiail (4 Edward IV) ab David, ab Gruffudd, ab Llwelyn, ab Madog Foel of Marchwiall etc. etc. (Harleian MSS. 4181)".

Here follows a disquisition on the lack of surnames in Welsh pedigrees, and the use of "ap".

"Anyway and beyond all question, every Kenrick is purely of Welsh name and origin. All the old MSS. in Brit. Mus., all the old Wills at Somerset House and Lichfield and St. Asaph, all the documents at Heralds' College—without exception and beyond chance of doubt show us all to be of Welsh families and of the best blood of the Cambrian Princes of North Wales. Even when our lines get into the hands of the mediaeval chroniclers, and become embellished with the names of Romans,—Kings emperors, empresses etc—it is only by the marriage of the Welsh Ancestor, male or female, with them or their parents. We cannot as Kenricks get out of our absolutely certain Welsh ancestry and pedigrees, before the year 1500 A.D. if we try ever so hard to do so. There is no such thing as the tracing of any of us back to an Anglo-Saxon lineage or to King Kenrick or Kenric, son of Cerdic or Cherdick—of 535 A.D. It is historically impossible. . . . . Hence the laboured efforts of our friend to prove to you and myself that all our tribes of K's were Scandinavians and finally of the Lost Tribes—and belonged to the tribe of Dan, who in prophesy were of maritime and sea-faring tendencies and that our being in Scandinavia was per prophesy on the general scattering, and then migrating to England—where he claimed the name English meant 'lovers of or hunters after *pork*'—all this stuff is not only absolutely foolish but false historically. I have the documents to prove us wholly Welsh back certainly to the Christian era's beginning—and over 1100 years before it—if one wants to accept what the Kenricks of 400 years ago fully credited as true, without exception."

Here follows an offer of a copy of the pedigree giving the direct line back to Belinus or Beli, 1116 B.C.

"Of course it will be absolutely reliable historically as far back as say A.D. 600, and as to what runs back into the dark beyond A.D. 600 will be curious, odd, and interesting—especially when

one considers that the MSS. from which it is copied exactly are themselves over 300 years old. If the early parts of the pedigree are a lie, the lie itself is over 300 years old and entitled to some little respect on account of its venerable old age."

Unfortunately nothing more was heard of Mr. Greene Kendricke, and so the copy of the wonderful pedigree was never acquired.

LETTERS AND EXTRACTS

Date		*Page*
1754	Samuel Kenrick to his mother	24
1761	Samuel Kenrick to his brother John . .	39
1773	Samuel Kenrick to his brother John . .	47
1776	Timothy Kenrick to his sister Martha . .	48
1776	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	51
1785	Timothy to Mary Waymouth	52
1785	Timothy to his wife	54
1786	Timothy to his father	56
1790	Miss Russell to Miss Rebecca Smith . .	58
1791	Timothy to his brother Archibald	58
1791	Mrs. A. Kenrick to her husband	60
1791	John Kenrick to his son Archibald	62
1791	Samuel to Timothy	63
1792	John Kenrick to his son Archibald	63
1792	John Kenrick to his son Archibald	64
1793	Mrs. A. Kenrick to her husband	66
1793	Timothy to his father	67
1793	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	73
1793	John Kenrick to Archibald	75
1794	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	77
1794	Timothy to his father	78
1794	Timothy to Samuel	80
1794	Samuel to Timothy	83
1794	John Kenrick's diary of the voyage	86
1794	John to his brother Timothy	91
	Observations on the best means of preparing for a voyage	96
1795	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	100
1795	Mr. William Davy to Timothy	100
1795	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	106
1795	Timothy to his father	106
1795	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	108
1795	Timothy to his father	109

Date		*Page*
1795	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	110
1796	Timothy to his father	110
	Samuel to Timothy	113
1796	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	116
1796	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	116
1797	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	117
1797	Ralph Eddowes to Timothy	117
1797	Timothy to his father	121
1798	Timothy to his father	123
1799	Timothy to his father	125
1801	Timothy to his father	126
1804	Mrs. A. Kenrick to Lucy	131
1805	Mrs. A. Kenrick to Lucy	134
1805	Mrs. A. Kenrick to Lucy	136
1806	Mrs. A. Kenrick to Lucy	139
1806	Mrs. A. Kenrick to Lucy	141
1807	Ralph Eddowes to Rev. John Kenrick . .	143
1808	Mrs. A. Kenrick to Lucy	144
1808	Archibald Kenrick to Mrs. Timothy Kenrick . .	147
1808	Samuel Kenrick of Bewdley to his great-nephew John	148
1808	Samuel Kenrick of Bewdley to his great-nephew John	151
1810	Rev. John Kenrick to his sister Lucy . .	155
1811	Ralph Eddowes to Mrs. Timothy Kenrick . .	155
1811	Samuel Kenrick, son of Timothy, to his sister Lucy	156
1811	From Rev. John Kenrick	158
1811	Rev. John Kenrick to his sister Mary . .	158
1811	Rev. John Kenrick to his sister Mary . .	160
1812	Samuel Kenrick to his sister Lucy	161
1812	Substance of Miss Kenrick's will	163
1813	Archibald Kenrick to his daughter Rebecca . .	164
1815	Rev. John Kenrick to Mary	166

Date		*Page*
1816	Archibald Kenrick to his wife	166
1816	Archibald Kenrick to his wife	170
1816	Archibald Kenrick to his wife	172
1818	Rev. John Kenrick to Lucy	175
1822	From Rev. John Kenrick	179
1822	Rebecca, daughter of Archibald, to Lucy . .	179
1823	Rev. John Kenrick to Mary	184
1823	Archibald Kenrick, jnr., to his sister Rebecca . .	186
1824	Rebecca to Lucy	188
1824	Rebecca to Lucy	192
1825	Rebecca to Lucy	195
1825	Archibald Kenrick, jnr., to Rebecca	198
1826	Mrs. A. Kenrick, jnr., to her mother . .	200
1829	Samuel to his sister Lucy	207
1829	Rebecca to Lucy	209
1830	Rebecca to Lucy	212
1831	Rev. John Kenrick to his uncle Archibald . .	215
1833	Rebecca to her brother Timothy	218
1833	Letter from John Bowen and his brother ministers	221
1834	Archibald Kenrick, jnr., to his wife	221
1834	Archibald Kenrick, jnr., to his wife	223
1834	Samuel to his sister Lucy	224
1835	Obituary notice of Archibald Kenrick . .	228
1837	Mrs. A. Kenrick, jnr., to Rebecca	231
1848	Archibald Kenrick to his wife	235
1858	Rebecca to her brother Timothy and his wife . .	237

abeth
sell

Archibald = Mary
b. 1727 Wilkinson
d. 1762

Elizabeth
b. 1775
d. 1820

Sarah = John
Stevenson

ard

Sarah = George Thomas
m. 1848 Smith
d. 1879 Kenrick

Twins

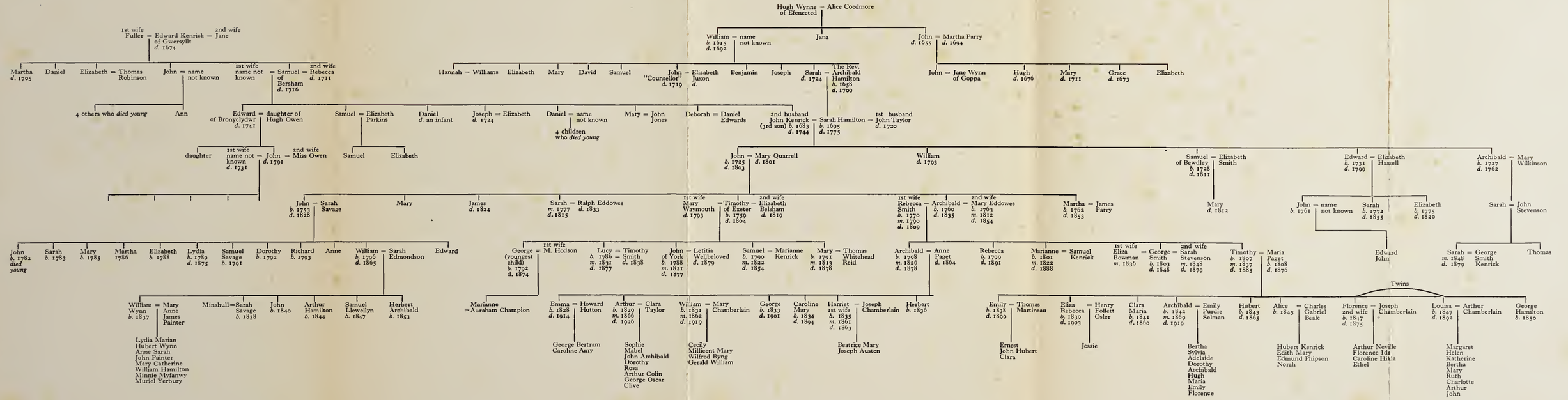
ph
mberlain

Louisa = Arthur
b. 1847 Chamberlain
d. 1892

George
Hamilton
b. 1850

lle
da

Margaret
Helen
Katherine
Bertha
Mary
Ruth
Charlotte
Arthur
John


Hugh Wynne = Alice Coedmore of Efenected
William = name not known b. 1615 d. 1692
Jana
John d. 1655 = Martha Parry d. 1694
Hannah = Williams
Elizabeth
Mary
David
Samuel
John "Counsellor" d. 1719 = Elizabeth Juxon d.
Benjamin
Joseph
Sarah d. 1724 = The Rev. Archibald Hamilton b. 1658 d. 1709
John = Jane Wynn of Goppa
Hugh d. 1676
Mary d. 1711
Grace d. 1673
Elizabeth
1st wife Fuller = Edward Kenrick = 2nd wife Jane of Gwersyllt d. 1674
Martha d. 1705
Daniel
Elizabeth = Thomas Robinson
John = name not known
1st wife name not known = Samuel of Bersham d. 1716 = 2nd wife Rebecca d. 1711
4 others who died young
Ann
Edward = daughter of Hugh Owen of Bronyclydwr d. 1741
Samuel = Elizabeth Parkins
Daniel d. an infant
Joseph = Elizabeth d. 1724
Daniel = name not known
4 children who died young
Mary = John Jones
Deborah = Daniel Edwards
2nd husband John Kenrick (3rd son) b. 1683 d. 1744 = Sarah Hamilton b. 1695 d. 1775 = 1st husband John Taylor d. 1720
daughter
1st wife name not known d. 1731 = John d. 1791 = 2nd wife Miss Owen
Samuel
Elizabeth
John = Mary Quarrell b. 1725 d. 1803 d. 1801
William d. 1793
Samuel of Bewdley b. 1728 d. 1811 = Elizabeth Smith
Edward b. 1731 d. 1799 = Elizabeth Hassell
Archibald b. 1727 d. 1762 = Mary Wilkinson
Mary d. 1812
John = name not known b. 1761
Sarah b. 1772 d. 1855
Elizabeth b. 1775 d. 1820
Edward
John
Sarah = John Stevenson
John = Sarah Savage b. 1753 d. 1828
Mary
James d. 1824
Sarah = Ralph Eddowes m. 1777 d. 1815
d. 1833
1st wife Mary Waymouth d. 1793 = Timothy of Exeter b. 1759 d. 1804 = 2nd wife Elizabeth Belsham d. 1819
1st wife Rebecca Smith b. 1770 m. 1790 d. 1809 = Archibald b. 1760 d. 1835 = 2nd wife Mary Eddowes b. 1763 m. 1812 d. 1854
Martha b. 1762 d. 1853 = James Parry
John b. 1782 died young
Sarah b. 1783
Mary b. 1785
Martha 1786
Elizabeth b. 1788
Lydia b. 1789 d. 1875
Samuel Savage b. 1791
Dorothy b. 1792
Richard b. 1793
Anne
William b. 1796 d. 1865 = Sarah Edmondson
Edward
George (youngest child) b. 1792 d. 1874 = 1st wife M. Hodson
Lucy m. 1831 = Timothy = Smith d. 1838 d. 1877
John of York b. 1788 m. 1821 d. 1877 = Letitia Wellbeloved d. 1879
Samuel b. 1790 m. 1822 d. 1854 = Marianne Kenrick
Mary b. 1791 m. 1813 d. 1878 = Thomas Whitehead Reid
Archibald b. 1798 m. 1826 d. 1878 = Anne Paget d. 1864
Rebecca b. 1799 d. 1891
Marianne b. 1801 m. 1822 d. 1888 = Samuel Kenrick
1st wife Eliza Bowman m. 1836 = George Smith b. 1803 d. 1848 = 2nd wife Sarah Stevenson m. 1848 d. 1879
Timothy b. 1807 m. 1837 d. 1885 = Maria Paget b. 1808 d. 1870
Sarah = George Smith Kenrick
m. 1848 d. 1879
Thomas
William Wynn b. 1837 = Mary Anne James Painter
Minshull = Sarah Savage b. 1838
John b. 1840
Arthur Hamilton b. 1844
Samuel Llewellyn b. 1847
Herbert Archibald b. 1853
Marianne = Abraham Champion
Emma b. 1828 d. 1914 = Howard Hutton
Arthur b. 1829 m. 1866 d. 1926 = Clara Taylor
William b. 1831 m. 1862 d. 1919 = Mary Chamberlain
George b. 1833 d. 1901
Caroline Mary b. 1834 d. 1894
Harriet 1st wife b. 1835 m. 1861 d. 1863 = Joseph Chamberlain
Herbert b. 1836
Emily b. 1838 d. 1899 = Thomas Martineau
Eliza Rebecca b. 1839 d. 1903 = Henry Follett Osler
Clara Maria b. 1841 d. 1869
Archibald b. 1842 m. 1869 d. 1919 = Emily Purdie Selman
Hubert b. 1843 d. 1865
Alice b. 1845 = Charles Gabriel Beale
Twins
Florence 2nd wife b. 1847 d. 1875 = Joseph Chamberlain
Louisa b. 1847 d. 1892 = Arthur Chamberlain
George Hamilton b. 1850
Lydia Marian
Hubert Wynn
Anne Sarah
John Painter
Mary Catherine
William Hamilton
Minnie Myfanwy
Muriel Yerbury
George Bertram
Caroline Amy
Sophie
Mabel
John Archibald
Dorothy
Rosa
Arthur Colin
George Oscar
Clive
Cecily
Millicent Mary
Wilfred Byng
Gerald William
Beatrice Mary
Joseph Austen
Ernest
John Hubert
Clara
Jessie
Bertha
Sylvia
Adelaide
Dorothy
Archibald
Hugh
Maria
Emily
Florence
Hubert Kenrick
Edith Mary
Edmund Phipson
Norah
Arthur Neville
Florence Ida
Caroline Hilda
Ethel
Margaret
Helen
Katherine
Bertha
Mary
Ruth
Charlotte
Arthur
John